

The Middlebury Campus

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EdLiberty fails to convince SGA

By Ben Anderson

After over an hour of debate and months of planning, on March 3 the Student Government Association (SGA) voted seven to 10 against funding the creation of EdLiberty, a community-building media and information sharing website for the College. EdLiberty would have provided four services in a single online platform: a forum for on-line conversations, a bulletin of campus events, a newsroom of relevant articles and a collection of videos from various campus events.

Work on the project began over a year ago when the program's developer, Brian Foster '13, first came up with the idea for what was then known as Cynirgy. Foster designed the program to complement and centralize existing options for student information.

After presenting the idea to the administration, Foster was able to secure general support but only half the necessary funding. He then turned to the SGA to fund the other half.

Throughout the development process, Foster struggled to distinguish his program from existing services such as MiddLab, MiddLink and the new Portal. Foster argued that Cynirgy/EdLiberty went beyond those

programs, and that their poor design and failure to gain the support of the student body merited the creation of a new platform. Cynirgy was supported in spirit by the SGA, though at that time did not receive funding because the program had yet to be fully built and the SGA believed they could only use their funds to purchase actual products, not to fund start-ups.

Since then, Foster worked to redesign the program and complete the plans so that he could come to the SGA with a fully developed product. Cynirgy was then renamed EdLiberty, which would feature the four main components.

The video offering marked perhaps the largest change from existing offerings. EdLiberty would compile videos from various College events, including athletics, concerts and guest speakers. Rather than hosting the videos, EdLiberty would act as a library of links to other video hosting sites such as YouTube. The second component — Think-tank — would offer a centralized location for non-anonymous on-line discussion within the College community.

Bulletins, the third component, would be a centralized calendar of on-campus events,

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Brian Foster '13 presents his proposal for \$33,500 to create EdLiberty, an information-sharing and community building website, to the SGA on March 3. It was voted down seven to 10.

Concert series revamps Bunker

By Danny Zhang

The College will be hosting two small concerts in the coming weeks, the product of efforts by the MCAB Concert Committee's Small Concerts Initiative program and the Inter-Commons Council. Rapper Beau Young Prince will be performing at the Bunker on Saturday, March 10, and Eric Hutchinson will be headlining a Wonnacott Commons benefit concert on March 16.

Alex Cort '14, who organized the Beau Young Prince event, worked with members of the Small Concerts Initiative for logistical support and to secure adequate funding for the concert. The Beau Young Prince concert is the first show to be organized through the Small Concerts Initiative.

Beau Young Prince has a number of friends at the College, as he attended the Saint Albans School in Washington, D.C., with several students in

SEE SMALL, PAGE 2

FACEBOOK FIASCO?

Many students have complained that photos and other Facebook features have been unavailable or slow to load in recent weeks. Computers off campus were

not affected, leading many to believe the College had some role in the problems. But Dean of Library and Information Services Mike Roy confirmed that, contrary to popular belief, the College had no role in the slowdown. He said the problem is most likely on Facebook's end. The problem can be easily fixed by logging onto the site from "https://www.facebook.com." Adding the "s" will prompt the Facebook to ask you to upgrade security settings. Approving the message will fix any problems.

Incidents prompt proactive hazing education program

By Kyle Finck

After Kappa Delta Rho (KDR) and Omega Alpha (Tavern) were accused of hazing and later cleared last fall, the College has embarked on a broad education and prevention campaign.

The most recent installment of the College's program was a talk by Dan Wrona, CEO and Program Leader of RISE, an education consulting firm, on Feb. 19.

"Dan's focus was very much about building healthy organizations, and how the new member education process plays into that goal," wrote Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs and Student Life Karen Guttentag in an email. "After two complaints of hazing against two different houses emerged from students this fall,

we wanted to make sure that our response was designed to help advance our community conversation about this issue in the most constructive and positive way."

Wrona's talk added to what Guttentag described as a "new member education process."

"If research and experience tells us that members are at their best and most willing to invest when they feel respected, appreciated, included and welcomed, Dan invites organizations to look at their practices and critique the extent to which they encourage or undermine those goals, and adjust those practices appropriately," she added.

Guttentag said Wrona's message aligned with Old Chapel's goal of not chiding students for

their behavior, but rather including them in the conversation.

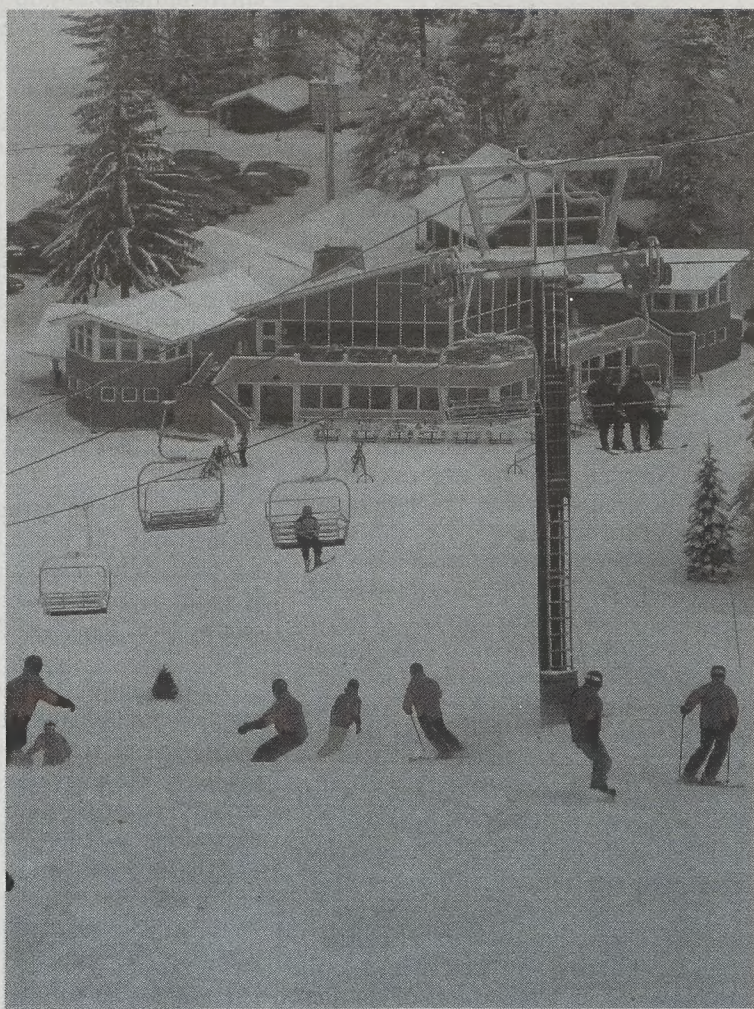
"We don't want to lecture about the dangers of hazing and how not to cross the line," she wrote in an email. "Instead, we want to help groups to understand that if you are really committed to treating all individuals, including all new members, with dignity and respect, no group will even come close to a hazing violation."

The talk was strongly attended by social house members, who originally requested additional hazing education. But in a push to extend the College program beyond just social houses, many athletic captains were also invited.

Tyler Wark '12, a men's base-

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LATE FEBRUARY SNOWS REVITALIZE SKI SEASON



COURTESY: PETER MACKEY

Local ski resorts, including the Middlebury College Snow Bowl, were reintroduced to winter last week as storms dropped as much as two feet of fresh snow. The storms brought a brief respite from one of the driest winters in Vermont history.

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BEYOND THE BUBBLE

BY BRONWYN OATLEY

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin regained the Russian presidency on March 4, securing 64 percent of the vote. Despite these results, opposition party leaders and election observers throughout Europe have yet to accept Putin's rule, calling for a formal inquiry into the legitimacy of the election. Russian citizens have also been critical of the election, with thousands gathering in the central streets of Moscow to protest Putin's victory.

The Organization for Security and Co-operation of Europe, an international organization concerned with intergovernmental issues, believes that the election was neither free nor fair. They postulate that voting irregularities compromised the accuracy of at least one-third of the polling stations.

Co-coordinator of the OSCE mission Tonino Picula said, "The point of elections is that the outcome should be uncertain ... This was not the case in Russia. There was no real competition and the abuse of government resources ensured that the ultimate winner of the election was never in doubt."

There is wide speculation that Putin may have paid voters to cast multiple ballots. They stated that voters were bussed from one polling station to another, participating in a "carousel voting" scheme. Additionally, there were more than two million absentee ballots cast, which allows for widespread violations, such as employers supervising their workers' votes.

Election watchdogs have also criticized the official recording of the election, citing their own independent polls as proof of election fraud. Their statistics show that Putin received just over 50 percent of the vote, 14 percent less than the officially tally.

Such developments have incited dissatisfaction amongst Russian voters, prompting widely-attended opposition rallies. According to BBC, many thousands of protestors gathered on the streets of Moscow on Monday, chanting "Putin — thief!"

In response to the protests, the Russian police arrested over 120 people. Protest leaders Alexi Navalny and Sergei Udaltsov were among those detained. The BBC reported that authorities arrested Navalny after he announced to a crowd of protesters that "swindlers and thieves" ruled Russia.

Despite the arrests, sources have confirmed that plans are underway to establish a more permanent opposition movement. According to *Globe and Mail*, some protesters have discussed establishing a tent city, which would act as a permanent central base to plan anti-Putin demonstrations.

Although several demonstrations have occurred in Russia over the last few months, in the wake of illegitimate elections, the centralized anti-government community may have the power to fundamentally destabilize the current regime.

In recent years, protesters have been instrumental in the erosion of political power throughout Europe. Tent cities were successfully erected by protestors during both Ukraine's 2004 Orange Revolution and Egypt's 2011 independence movement.

While anti-Putin sentiment has reached an all-time high in Moscow, officials have openly questioned the sustainability of such an antagonistic movement. Protestors will face an uphill battle in the coming days in their bid to overthrow the President — facing frigid Moscow temperatures, a state-controlled media machine and Russian authorities.

Small concerts feature rising stars

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the class of 2014.

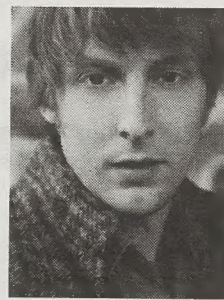
Cort called the rapper an up-and-coming star who has showed impressive improvements since first gaining exposure during high school. Beau Young Prince has performed with Nellie and spring concert headliner Wale.

"I think it will be a really lively show with a lot of energy," said Cort. "Jack Tipper '15 will be deejaying the set."

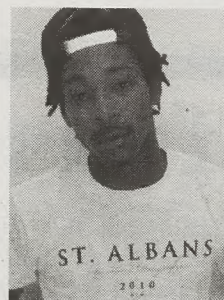
Hosting the event at the Bunker will be more expensive than hosting it at an alternative on-campus location, such as the McCullough Social Space, as dining services staff members and students who will serve as crowd control must receive adequate training and compensation.

"I think the Bunker is a great space for small hip-hop shows and electro shows," said MCAB Concert Committee co-Chair Dan Crepps '12. "We at MCAB are continually working at the logistical challenges of the [Bunker] to make sure that the space continues to be available for student use in the future."

Crepps added that plans for the Bunker's future have not altered significantly since Winter Term. The administration was originally supposed to decide the venue's fate at the conclusion of Winter Term.



Eric Hutchinson



Young Prince

The Small Concerts Initiative will be hosting two more events in the coming weeks. Crazy Hearse will perform in the McCullough Social Space on April 7 and the Bunker will house a DJ Night, featuring music from Distal and Jonwayne on April 14.

Six days following the Beau Young Prince concert, the College will host acoustic pop-rock musician Eric Hutchinson in the McCullough Social

Space on March 16 as part of the Wonnacott Commons' "Raise The Volume" event. All proceeds from Hutchinson's performance will be donated to local charity HOPE (Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects), which aims to eradicate poverty throughout Addison County.

According to Wonnacott Commons Tri-Chair Anne Yoon '14, the Council chose Hutchinson because they thought his music would appeal to a broad group of students. She compared Hutchinson's style to that of Jason Mraz, adding that the atmosphere will be casual and low-key.

The Inter-Commons Council is sponsoring the event through a pool fund. Yoon said that the council is promoting the event both on and off campus, contacting local newspapers, WRMC and Hutchinson's own website. Tickets for "Raise The Volume" are being sold for \$9 at go/boxoffice.

The MCAB Small Concert Initiative is accepting applications for concert funding and support in hosting artists through an online form, available at go/concertinitiative.

NOM program promotes food education

By Lauren Davidson

A new student-run initiative, the Nutrition Outreach and Mentoring program (NOM), has joined in the fight to foster food education in local Middlebury schools.

Emma Burke '12 began the program in October to encourage healthy eating and to provide information regarding current issues in nutrition to high school students.

Burke was inspired to start NOM after conducting research on non-profit organizations that are devoted to culinary training as a means of poverty elevation. NOM was the result of her ability to take these issues and translate them into the surrounding community.

"The whole goal behind that is to encourage healthy and nutritious eating habits and get kids to gain a confidence that you get when you learn how to cook," said Burke. "It's a skills-building organization, which is a concrete thing that they can take away, and it's also a more general broadening of your mind."

The group usually meets one or two times a week and offers students the opportunity to participate in cooking classes conducted by the program's volunteers. The classes include taste testing, budgeting and gardening to inform students how to eat healthier and why it is an important life skill.

"I joined NOM earlier in the year as it seemed like the perfect way to combine my passion for inspiring others, especially youth, to grow, cook and eat nutritious, whole, local food," said Lauren Honican '15.

As the liaison between the surrounding community and the College, Honican hopes to see some Addison County students working alongside Middlebury students to incorporate a variety of interests from health and the environment to food and gardening.

Burke acknowledged some of the challenges that the organization faces, despite its success and growing participation. Changing the food culture within local schools has proved to be one of the most difficult tasks with which NOM is confronted.

"We try to find the balance between pushing kids to try new things and actually having them eat and enjoy the food," said Burke.

The service organization also acts as a mentoring program to build relationships



COURTESY: EMMA BURKE

Anna Mackey '14 "taste tests" with local students at Beeman Elementary School as part of the student-led Nutrition Outreach and Mentoring (NOM) program.

and compliments the use of the community center as a safe space for students in the local area to spend the after school hours.

"The most important thing is to build relationships with people," said Burke. "Once you build a relationship with a teen you can get them to do a lot of different things. It's really just about making sure you are there and a regular presence in their life so they can depend on you."

In the future, NOM has plans to expand on what they have already accomplished this year. Burke has applied for a Middlebury grant to supply funding for a renewable NOM summer camp that would combine sustainable education, food education and foster community growth. The camp would include skills workshops and explorations of the local food systems, from the farm to the table.

"Food can truly be a common denominator and a gateway to building new relationships and looking at the world in a different way," said Burke. "This is why I believe food education is so important and why anyone with a passion for food and a desire to

share that should try to do so through the different food initiatives on campus."

NOM is looking for new volunteers and will hold an on-campus brunch retreat on Sunday, March 11, about upcoming projects and ways to get involved with the program.

MCAB'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Chellis House Lecture

Featuring Dr. Marta Vega

Moreno

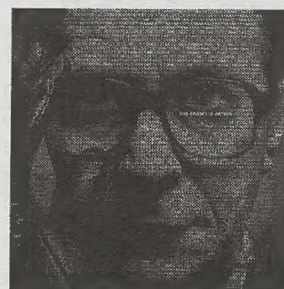
THURSDAY AT 12:15 P.M.

Free Friday Film

Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy will

play at Dana

FRIDAY AT 7 & 10 P.M.



Bunker Concert

Rising rapper Beau Young

Prince comes to Vt.

SATURDAY AT 9:30 P.M.

Zumba

Take a study break at

McCullough!

SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.

Transition to MiddNotes is slow

By Nate Sans

Launched in October 2011, the MiddNotes website has yet to achieve its intended purpose as a dynamic blog to take the place of all-student emails. Many student organizations, such as the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB), have expressed concern that an infrequently-visited blog site will be less effective than all-student emails in publicizing their events.

In partnering with the office of the Dean of the College, Library Information Services (LIS) launched MiddNotes as part of a larger project called Portal in an attempt to consolidate information frequently sought by students, such as dining hall menus and results of athletic competitions, into one easy to use website.

MiddNotes is a module within Portal that functions as a blog, in which anyone at the College can submit a post to be approved by a Student Government Association (SGA) representative, which is then posted to the blog for all students to read.

A publicity campaign with flyers and pamphlets on dining hall tables launched during Winter Term, encouraging students to read and post on it. In the month of January, the number of MiddNotes posts published reached 27, up from six in December 2011. The number of posts further rose in February, reaching 37 listings.

In comparison, there were nearly 30 all-student emails sent during Winter Term. That number dropped to 13 in February. Before the launch of MiddNotes, the average number of all-student emails per month was 20.

Manager of Web and Interactive Digital Media Technologies Joseph Antonioli reported that MiddNotes received 915 visits in 30 days, reaching a peak of 379 page

views on Feb. 15.

The number of emails sent to all students has decreased since the introduction of MiddNotes, but organizations such as MCAB are now struggling to find ways to effectively reach as many students as possible.

"We haven't had the easiest time adjusting to not having all-student email privileges anymore," wrote MCAB President Nadia Schreiber '12 in an email. "We have been relying mostly on our Facebook page when we want to share information."

Antonioli argues otherwise, stating that "methods for promotion have increased with the implementation of MiddNotes."

"What we have done is allowed [students] to consume the information in the way that they like: through the portal, visiting MiddNotes or subscribing to feeds. In fact, if they would like to still receive emails they may subscribe to a regular delivery of MiddNotes posts."

Schreiber wrote that MiddNotes has the potential to be an excellent tool for students because of the convenience that comes with the consolidation of useful information, "[but] there just has to be a shift in the student body toward checking and using MiddNotes frequently before it can be a truly viable alternative to emails."

Despite the attempts to publicize MiddNotes, many students remain unaware that the site exists.

With regard to receiving all-student emails, Nike Power '15 said, "I didn't mind it. If I didn't want to read it, I could just delete it," adding that she does not use MiddNotes.

"I would like there to be less emails sent to me from the school. I delete all of them anyways," wrote Daniel Sundali '15 in an

email. "I had no idea that MiddNotes existed, so I obviously have never used it before. I think that MiddNotes would be a much better alternative to all-campus emails about every little thing."

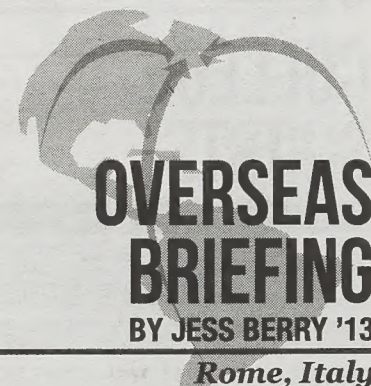
Dean of the College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley M. Collado has acknowledged that problems with the site exist, referencing the inability to effectively filter content to streamline the search process.

"There's no getting around it – the site needs some work," Collado said. "The site is just not dynamic enough. I think it needs a new name, better ways to personalize it with the most relevant links and multimedia. It's limited in content and it isn't as interesting as students want it to be."

Moving forward, Special Assistant to the Dean of the College Jennifer T. Herrera, Special Projects Coordinator Sarah Franco, L. Douglas and Laura J. Meredith Dean of LIS and Chief Information Officer Mike Roy and Joseph Antonioli will be working with students who are interested in the site to make it more effective and promote usage. MCAB and the Student Government Association are also partnering to develop a weekly digest of student events, with information collected from MiddNotes, to further streamline the process.

Herrera emphasized the necessity of student involvement with the project to aid improvements.

"We want students to partner with us as we work on improving how information is accessed and received ... [Roy and Antonioli] have a student advisory board that works closely with them," wrote Herrera in an email. "I strongly encourage students to subscribe to MiddNotes and to submit any news and announcements they want their peers to get."



I passed through customs and approached the sliding doors of the airport. Before me was a huge crowd of Italians, holding signs or their breath, waiting for lovers, friends or family to walk through the doors and onto the bustling sidewalk of the Fiumicino airport in Rome. I immediately saw my name on a sign that read "Jessica Berry Kelly," held up by my landlord Alfonso, a stout, balding man in his sixties. I walked over to him with my bags in tow and was about to extend a hand for an introduction when I saw him leaning towards me with his head slightly turned. *Oh crap, he's going to do that kissing thing.*

I had prepared myself somewhat for the moment when I would have to kiss an Italian on each cheek, but not with my landlord and not so early on in the game. I had pictured myself pecking each cheek of a beautiful Italian boy, being perfectly casual and slightly seductive. Instead, I ended up going to the wrong side and nearly giving pudgy Alfonso a little more action than he was planning for. Thankfully, he quickly adapted and moved to fix my mistake. *Phew.* I had made it through my first real Italian welcome, albeit awkwardly.

Fast forward two weeks, and I'm standing outside a bar in the student housing district near my new university. I had just met two boys, one Italian and one Peruvian, and we were discussing the European kiss-on-each-cheek custom. My American friends and I were saying how intimate it felt to kiss someone you barely knew, but they argued that the American tradition of hugging was much more uncomfortable for them.

"When you kiss someone's cheek, you're barely touching them," the Italian boy explained. "When you hug someone, every part of your body has to touch."

While his logic made sense, I still wasn't convinced. To me, the Italians simply live much more intimately. Couples cuddle and make out at bus stops, street vendors approach you with goods like you're an old friend and men who serve you coffee will sometimes serenade you with a classic Italian tune. What is often considered creepy in the United States is widely regarded to be endearing here.

Seeing a couple suck face five feet to my left or having a man selling flowers approach me asking for my name and hometown made me feel uncomfortable and a little violated at first. When it comes to cities, I am used to New York, where your chances of seeing any friendly interaction between strangers are about as high as your chances of making it through Times Square without seeing pre-teen girls taking a photo with the naked cowboy.

But one day when I was on the tram, I let go of the bar I was using to keep my balance to reach into my bag to grab something. We stopped short and as the driver hit the brakes, I felt myself falling backwards. Then suddenly I stopped. Surprised, I turned around to see a middle-aged man with his hand against my back, preventing what would have been a bruised tailbone and ego. He smiled at me but said nothing, and let go once he was sure I was stable.

After such a chivalric interaction, I've decided that the boundary-less lifestyle here isn't too bad. As so many students abroad must do with things they are not accustomed to, I've learned to embrace it. Just not literally, because that would be a little too personal.

Crossroads sees management shakeup

By Josh Kruskal

Crossroads Café co-founder David Dolifka '13 has stepped down from his position as co-manager of the student-run restaurant in McCullough. Dolifka's departure leaves a gap in the management of Crossroads, a position that the four remaining student managers are looking to replace.

Café manager Kate Strangfeld '12 said that while Dolifka's resignation came as a surprise, she remains hopeful that operations will continue smoothly.

"I'm optimistic," she said. "I see it as an opportunity to turn a new page for the business."

Dolifka attributed his resignation to a "series of changes specifically regarding my responsibilities and relationship with the Café."

Crossroads Café was created in fall 2010 after a competition to select a student-designed concept for a new dining space in McCullough. The two winning entries — one of which was submitted by Dolifka, the other by a group of students including Strangfeld — were ultimately combined. After a month of organizing, the café opened for business in early 2011.

Strangfeld proposed for the space to be converted into a healthier version of Mexican food chain, Chipotle. Dolifka said his idea was a "seasonally-oriented fondue shop geared more toward group dining."

"It was sort of like an arranged marriage," said Strangfeld, with regard to the merging of proposals for the dining operation.

Crossroads has been entirely student-

operated since its inception, but Strangfeld said that much of its success has been due to the continued support of the College's retail food operations staff, which manages the Grille, MiddXpress, Wilson Café and the snack bars at the Snow Bowl and Ralph Myhre Golf Course.

"I've talked to managers at the Grille. We have a very good relationship, and they have confidence in us," Strangfeld said. "They want us to work, and they've been nothing but helpful in getting us to succeed."

"I see a lot of enthusiasm in the students who work downstairs," said Grille Retail



Manager David Dolifka's resignation offers a new opportunity for the Café's future.

Food Manager Solon Coburn. "It's a great [student] initiative ... and they've been great neighbors." He added that rather than creating a sense of competition in McCullough, Crossroads has actually helped the Grille draw in more business.

"When Crossroads is empty, it looks like the Grille is closed too, so the more people [Crossroads] can pull into that space, the better it is for us," he said.

Coburn cited contrasting peak hours and vastly different menu items as reasons for the lack of competition between the two sites.

General Manager of Retail Dining David Cannistra said that the presence of Crossroads contributes to the dynamic space that the café shares with the Grille. He added that new changes in the works will hopefully have a positive impact on both restaurants.

"We're hiring two new [student] directors to manage programming for the stage," Cannistra said. The Grille has implemented an online ordering and delivery system, which Cannistra said will make it more convenient for students to order Grille food.

Strangfeld said that while she is grateful for the support of the Grille management, she also values the independence that comes with being an entirely student-run business. She noted that had Dolifka not resigned she might have only stayed on until the upcoming spring break, but now she plans to continue at least until the café is in a good position to bring in a new manager.

Dolifka has recommended Jessie Lusier '13 to replace him, though an official decision has not yet been made.

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG MARCH 1-5, 2012

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
3/01/12	1:00 p.m.	Collision	Minor Accident	R Lot (Ridgeline)	Case Closed
3/02/12	5:20 p.m.	Fire Alarm	Cooking	Brackett	Case Closed
3/03/12	8:50 p.m.	Theft	Iphone	Athletic Complex	Open
3/03/12	1:33 a.m.	Missing Adult	Student Found Shortly	Hadley	Case Closed
3/04/12	11:45 p.m.	Alcohol Citation	Possession By Minor	Gifford	Case Closed
3/05/12	12:21 a.m.	Attempted Theft	Unknown	Adirondack View Road	Case Closed
3/05/12	12:50 a.m.	Fire Alarm Report	Burning Candle	Sperry	Case Closed

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 13 alcohol citations between 3/01/2012 and 3/05/2012.

COLLEGE SHORTS

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NATION

COMPILED BY ALLISON FORREST

Two monkeys die at Harvard Medical School

Two monkeys at the Harvard Medical School's New England Primate Research Center have died in the past three months, resulting in the indefinite suspension of experiments at the Center.

A cotton-top tamarin monkey died Sunday, pushing the total primate deaths in Harvard research facilities to five in the past 19 months.

Although the most recent primate death is currently under investigation, the *Boston Globe* reported that the monkey was dehydrated, as it did not have a water bottle in its cage, making this the second death due to dehydration in the past three months.

Harvard Medical School Dean Jeffrey Flier said that a team of veterinary staff and supervisors will now monitor animals and procedures more frequently to prevent such incidents in the future.

Harvard could face fines or receive a warning because of failures to comply with federal animal welfare regulations.

— The Boston Globe

Trinity College student assaulted on campus

A sophomore at Trinity College was assaulted by a group of individuals while walking home from a party near the edge of campus early Sunday morning.

Chris Kenny, the victim, and friend Tim Suspenski were returning to their dorm when a dark-colored car pulled up next to them. Five or six people jumped out and robbed them.

Although Suspenski was able to get away, Kenny suffered severe facial injuries, including a broken jaw, rib and cheekbone. He underwent surgery Sunday afternoon and is in fair condition.

According to school officials, the attackers were not students. The Hartford police and school officials are investigating the attack, but no arrests have been made.

In the wake of the assault, students and parents of Trinity are calling for increased campus security, especially near Barry Square, where the attack took place. This section of campus has recently seen an increase in violent crime, including murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault.

— The Hartford Courant

Graduation rate reporting by colleges in question

The way that colleges and universities report graduation rates is in question, as the current federal regulations, which were determined in the mid-1990s, are now outdated.

Graduation rates are currently determined by the percent of full-time, first-year students who begin college in the fall and complete their degree within six years. However, because many students today are nontraditional students or end up transferring between institutions, many are not captured by the federal definition of graduation rate.

Graduation rates are more realistically reported in a "unit-record" tracking system, which follows students from institution to institution for their entire college careers.

Some worry that unit-record graduation rates would be used by the government to measure the standard of colleges and university, fearing a higher-education version of No Child Left Behind.

The discussion will be continued in order to find the best method of reporting graduation rates for consumers, institution of higher education and the government.

— The Chronicle of Higher Education

Grille to offer iPhone app, online ordering

By Melanie Haas

The Grille has created an online ordering and delivery service to allow students to place food orders and larger catering requests remotely. The site is scheduled to launch on Monday, March 12 and will feature a smartphone application to allow for on-the-go ordering.

Students will be able to have Grille food delivered to them through the service, provided that the order is placed during regular delivery hours. Those who opt out of the food delivery option will be able to bypass any lines for swift take-out meals.

"The website is meant to serve a two-fold purpose," said General Manager of Retail Dining David Cannistra. "It will simplify catering orders and cut down on mistakes that are made during Grille delivery."

The new service aims to increase the efficiency of the Grille by eliminating the majority of phone calls that are made to

the dining space, according to Cannistra, as answering phone calls is time-consuming for Grille employees.

Cannistra believes that the service will increase fundraising prospects for student organizations that seek to raise money by delivering Grille food. Student organizations have earned \$3616 this academic year through the Grille's delivery service.

Grille employees are less convinced that the new service will facilitate the food ordering system, as it has the potential to increase confusion and kitchen errors.

"It's going to be confusing having three sources for orders," said Tristan Cartwright, a Middlebury Union High School senior who works at the Grille. "It'll be interesting to see what happens."

Melissa Childs '14 sees the Grille's shift to an online system as a great decision business and hopes to take advantage of the new service.

Others, such as Noah Berman '13, are less enthused, calling the Grille's efforts pointless and expressing a desire for better food and more variety at the retail outlet.

"The Grille is a space for social interaction," said Emily Jacke '12.5. "I go to see people and procrastinate, I don't need to order online first. The wait in line isn't that long and doesn't bother me."

The College has spent less than \$5,000 on the project, the funding for which came from the Retail Dining Budget.

Cannistra sees the online service as a necessity of sorts, citing other schools with online delivery systems and alluding to the College being behind the curve in that regard.

Before the site launches on March 12, students can acquaint themselves with the service at mddcatering.catertrax.com.

SGA debate turns heated

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

aggregating both student and faculty happenings. The fourth piece, Newsroom, would be a location for all students and faculty to share links to existing media content.

THE SGA VOTES

On March 3, Foster presented this new proposal to the SGA and a significant number of students.

Cook Commons Senator Michael Polebaum '12 spoke against Foster's project, arguing that it was an inappropriate use of the student activities fee.

"The SGA has never been in the industry of sponsoring such programs," he said, alluding to the issue of funding a venture instead of an established student organization or program. Supporting such a project, Polebaum warned, would set a dangerous precedent of the SGA footing the bill for projects that the administration endorses but does not want to fully fund.

He added that EdLiberty does not actually provide a new service but rather pools together existing services such as the Portal and MidLink, and there is no reason to believe it wouldn't be just as underutilized by students.

Since the MiddView Bill, some senators perceive a trend wherein Old Chapel only partially funds projects that benefit the College and then leaves it up to the SGA to fund the remainder. Though it was ultimately decided that MiddView was an appropriate use of SGA funds, EdLiberty, Polebaum and others argued, is not.

SGA Finance Committee Chair Scott Klenet '12 spoke on the financial aspects of the project. He highlighted how the student activities fee is currently allocated, going through, piece by piece, each service that is funded by the SGA. He argued that the \$33,000 bill is not feasible, given the current economic situation, and that choosing to fund EdLiberty would reduce the amount of money available to fund student organizations by nine percent.

Other senators, representatives of student groups and audience members spoke as well, with some worrying that EdLiberty is a business venture for Foster. Foster argued that he had no immediate plans to profit from EdLiberty. However, an amendment was added to the bill stating that if Foster ever profits from the program he will repay the SGA's initial contribution.

Concerns over a lack of transparency were also raised because EdLiberty would be managed by an outside software design

company located in Boston, Mass. Many in the audience were skeptical of the idea of an outside firm managing the site and questioned why there was no opportunity to survey other possibilities before deciding on a final host, though Foster maintains he investigated multiple companies before landing on EdLiberty's current developer.

Those in support of EdLiberty echoed Foster's belief that the site would strengthen the college community.

Rhiya Trivedi '12 spoke in favor of the project saying, "the piece of this that I can really get behind is Thinktank. I see it as the online version of JusTalks ... anonymous online discussions are dangerous and [Foster's project] can help centralize and facilitate difficult and necessary discussions."

Regardless of the cost, many students saw EdLiberty as a positive addition to the College's online community.

Will Potter '14, a computer science major, said, "a website is only successful as it gets hits ... [Foster's] design looks great, it brings all these different services together. I'd be surprised if it didn't catch on."

Heated debate continued for over an hour, with the discussion at times turning personal.

"It seemed some [SGA] members seemed concerned first with attacking [Foster] on a personal level," wrote Andrew Lebovitz '14 in an email. "At times this meeting

just seemed to be a general attack on Brian and EdLiberty instead of focusing on the concrete issue of whether EdLiberty should be funded or not."

In response to the growing animosity in the room, President of the SGA Vin Recca '12 attempted to refocus debate in his closing remarks.

"The question at hand tonight is whether or not EdLiberty is an appropriate use of SGA funds," he said.

In a vote of seven to 10 against the bill, the SGA decided it was not.

Though disappointed with the tone of the debate, the meeting has not discouraged Foster from making EdLiberty a reality.

"I think it was obvious to anyone in the room that the discussion on Sunday was much more political and personal than it was about this project itself," Foster wrote in an email.

"I am really motivated after the SGA meeting," he added, and will continue to pursue funding and development support from outside sources.

With additional reporting by Adam Schaffer.

Lectures are coupled with workshops

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ball captain, attended the meeting, calling it "informative."

"He didn't focus on the topic of hazing, per se, but just how to facilitate the formation of a successful new team of group and how to maintain consistency in terms of cooperation and general happiness," Wark wrote in an email.

As a captain of a spring team whose new members were recently welcomed into the group, Wark said he would like more guidance from the College on the specifics of the hazing policy.

"I would have liked for him to talk way more in depth about the College's hazing policy, as well as Vermont's policy, in order to clear up ambiguous components of it to help ensure that certain activities are avoided," he wrote.

"A discussion of permissible activities for teams, social houses and various clubs would have been a useful topic to delve into ... but I understand that there shouldn't be any [questionable] 'activities' ... in a perfect world."

Director of Athletics Erin Quinn said that Wrona's talk goes hand-in-hand with the department's three-step hazing program.

"In the prevention model you start with education and preventative measures," he said. "You then develop early intervention strategies. Finally, you develop policies and protocols as a response to events that may occur and could be considered hazing."

Quinn said the department has implemented educational programs on an individual team basis, because if hazing occurs it typically does so within a team. The department has also had discussions among different members of teams through the Student Athlete Advisory Committee for student-athletes to share best practices and experiences across teams.

"We designed workshops for coaches to use with their respective teams to discuss team culture as the basis for prevention."

In the future, Quinn said he hopes to introduce a bystander intervention program for teams.

"While coaches and teams can discuss this conceptually, we are developing training protocols which will enrich the training in this area," said Quinn. "We need to continue to develop the educational programming, although many coaches and athletes have reported great success in this area, and we definitely need to continue to develop and encourage bystander intervention."



SPRINGTIME SUGARING

By Elaine Dellinger

Drive down a Vermont country road in the next couple of weeks and chances are you will see a column of steam rising from the woods. If you do, it would be worth your while to take a pit stop, for you have probably stumbled upon one of Vermont's most famous cultural traditions, maple sugaring.

Each spring, Vermonters participate in this tradition on all scales, ranging from backyard operations with fewer than 50 taps to large-scale commercial operations with taps numbering over 3000. Whatever the scale, the basic process for making that delicious maple syrup you put on your pancakes in Proctor is the same across the board.

The process of sugaring lies in the temperature conditions that occur this time of year — cold nights with temperatures below freezing and warm days with temperatures above freezing. This change in temperature each day causes the sap to flow from the maple tree's roots where it is stored at night up to the branches during the day. This flow allows sugarers each spring to tap into the trees and collect the sap the flows. Once collected, the water in the sap is boiled off in an evaporator, converting about forty gallons of sap into one delicious gallon of maple syrup.

Talk to anyone in Vermont, and they probably know people who sugar if they themselves aren't in this business.

"Everyone around here knows someone who sugars," Professor of English and American Literatures Timothy Billings said.

Just on Middlebury's campus I was able to find several sugarers, from students Sam Koplinka-Loehr '13 and Ford



COURTESY

Milk jugs catch the sap from the tree.



COURTESY: TIMOTHY BILLINGS

Billings makes maple syrup with the evaporator in his backyard. The water is evaporated from the sap to make syrup.

Van Fossan '13 to Billings to Dining Services staff members Charlie Sargent and Bob Stowe.

If you are looking for an entertaining sugaring story, have a chat with Koplinka-Loehr and Van Fossan about their guerilla sugaring operation based out of the woods behind Brooker for the past two years. Using materials found in the recycling center, they were able to tap over 20 trees and produce genuine Middlebury maple syrup, despite losing some syrup to a failed first attempt involving a makeshift evaporator and exploding bricks. Unfortunately, Public Safety brought their operation to an end due to the questionable legality and possible danger of the large fire they had built behind Brooker in order to boil the sap.

"We were really hoping that we would appear in the Public Safety Incident Log from that week — can you imagine what it would say next to our names?" Van Fossen said.

Also tapping into what he calls "the true spirit of backyard sugar operations" is Billings, who started his own opera-

tion last year in the woods of his home on Snake Mountain. Using recycled milk cartons and an old wood stove he was able to produce syrup for the first time last year from the maples growing on his property.

Although not a native Vermonter, Billings said, "I've been here for 14 years, and I had to become a part of this Vermont tradition."

While Koplinka-Loehr, Van Fossan and Billings have been trying their hand at smaller backyard operations, many Vermonters run larger-scale commercial operations, tapping thousands of trees in sugar bushes that have been

cared for over generations.

Two such professional sugarers and native Vermonters are Sargent and Stowe. Sargent has over 3000 taps while Stowe has over 1000. Both men tap sugar bushes that have been in the family for at least five generations. Sugaring seems to be something that is a given for these native Vermonters.

"It's a lot of work, but I just can't imagine not doing it," said Sargent.

And it's a good thing for us that they are in the business because the tasty maple syrup you have for breakfast in the

dining halls comes from Stowe's sugar bush and other local operations.

However, whatever their experience, this year, sugarers across the board are scrambling to deal with the strange weather we've been having this winter. The warmer temperatures have created the necessary conditions for tapping earlier than usual — tapping usually begins in early March. Some sugarers started tapping in mid-February because the sap had already started running in certain areas.

"We started tapping earlier this year by about a week, but if we had been ready we would have started tapping a week earlier than that. But given the winter we've been having we should have been prepared," said Sargent.

Tapping at just the right time is a delicate business because taps only stay open about four weeks after the hole is drilled. Tap too early, and the tap closes up before the sap stops running, but tap too late and you miss the first run of sap, an unfortunate loss for, according to Billings, "the first sap run of the year is always the sweetest."

Despite the scramble to tap early, Sargent has already managed to produce his first batch of syrup for the year, and don't worry — he assures me that the syrup this year will be plenty sweet.

"We were really hoping that we would appear in the Public Safety Incident Log from that week."

FORD VAN FOSSEN '13



Vt. Soapworks cleans naturally

By Winnie Yeung

While we are all busy with our spring semester, we seldom have time to step off campus, to stroll along Otter Creek and explore. But, if you do go into town, you will find businesses hidden within those red metallic houses standing along Exchange Street, just a little past Marble Works. Opening the door into a spacious open space with tanks of different sizes, one can hardly imagine this warehouse is where Vermont Soapworks, a certified, organic soap manufacturer that produced the first organic shower gels in the world, is located.

In Vermont Soapworks, a near-native Vermonter Larry Plesent and his 24 employees produce handmade soaps whose history can be traced back to Louis XIV (who persecuted soap-makers that produced soap inattentive to sensitive skins).

But, besides traditional bar soap, they also explore ways to replace chemicals in soap with organic products. They produce liquid soaps for skin and cleaning, numerous organic nontoxic cleaners such as "Liquid Sunshine," pet shower gels and even toothbrush sanitizer.

How are these different from manufactured soap and detergents? They are made from scratch with raw materials importing from all corners around the world: coconut oil from the Philippines, palm oil from Colombia, olive oil from the Mediterranean and shea butter from Africa.

Moreover, these organic methods require a month at least to transform raw materials into a bar of soap or a bottle of dental deodorant, which isn't nearly as efficient as mass-produced soaps. You may ask, is it worthwhile to take this strenuous process just to produce a bar of soap? To Plesent, it all pays off once his customers try this soothing soap, relieving them of all the itchy skin, of which he has painful memories.

Plesent spent seven years as a window cleaner and was in close contact with many kinds of soaps and detergents.

"I used to jump off buildings to clean windows," he said, also explaining how he got his nickname, "Spiderman." "I became detergent-sensitive through overexposure to chemicals at work. I was



WINNIE YEUNG

Slabs of fresh soap made naturally at Vermont Soapworks in Middlebury.

intolerant even to fragrances and most artificial foaming agents."

He even had severe dermatitis on his arm for eight years until one day he found his solution.

"One day, I came upon a bar of handmade soap," he said. "I thought it would rip my skin off, but surprisingly, within three days, my eight-year dermatitis ran away."

Such a magical invention inspired him to manufacture his own natural and organic soaps that bring comfort to users of all skin types. Combining his knowledge of biochemistry and his determination, he set up this factory 19 years ago and has been serving the East Coast and the rest of the world ever since.

Surprisingly, the soap-making business is not confined to factory production. During the year, Plesent would travel to Liberia to teach local people the skill of making soap with the proper use of natural resources.

"These skills [are] seemingly easy and inessential, but they are the fastest way to increase income without comprising the environment too much," he said. In economic terms, this provides a means for economic development and breaks the cycle of poverty in underdeveloped countries.

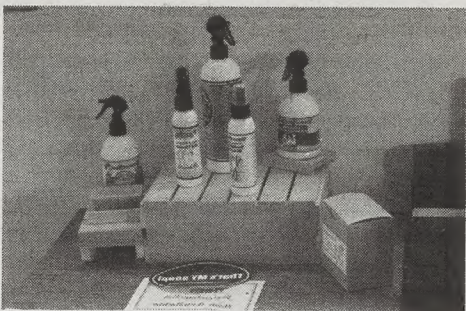
It is under the same principle that Vermont Soapworks imports fair-trade butternut soaps from African farmers, to be an agent to promote eco-economic

development.

"We pay higher than the local price to local producers, to encourage them to seek alternative ways to increase their income and raise the awareness of hygiene and water sanitation" he said.

Soap is a symbol of luxury for many in Africa, and yet, to most Americans, it is a necessity that we cannot live without. What is striking, though, is that, through soap making, Plesent endeavors to contribute selflessly "in his own way" to "change the world" even though he is working day and night in a tiny town in Vermont.

Vermont Soapworks has a certain "Vermont-ness" that some have in mind: it maintains a sense of cozy localness and affinity to nature, yet harbors the selfless care for our globe under the guise of production.



Vermont Soapworks sells a variety of cleaning products, sold at the store on Exchange Street.

Red Tomato isn't trying to broaden its customer base to include a more diverse chunk of the population," she wrote in an email.

She suggests that low-income to middle class families may not want to splurge on a tomato just because it is locally grown. She worries that this could potentially be Red Tomato's "downfall in the future." Koiv-Haus goes on to say that a more effective solution, "might be bringing the lower-income people to farmer's markets rather than the market produce to super markets."

The reality is that Koiv-Haus raises a valid point. While Rozyne no doubt is an important advocate for small farmers, if he really wants to change America he is going to need to market to the majority of its population. The majority may not choose to pay more for produce that was grown without the use of pesticides or fruit that was delivered from a nearby farm. Cost of food will directly impact whether or not this movement is successful.

Still, Red Tomato represents a bright spot as a concrete example of an organization making strides towards a more sustainable America. Red Tomato is a logistical accomplishment with management working practically 24 hours a day tracking deliveries from start to finish. Red Tomato is a testament to the capabilities of technology and an inspiration as we move forward in the local-food movement.

a "virtual" supply chain that facilitates the movement of produce from forty affiliated farms to grocery stores throughout the New York and Boston area. Rozyne makes it clear that the primary purpose of Red Tomato is to create "opportunities for our region's farmers to become primary suppliers of a sustainable regional food system."

He wants to subvert current attitudes about the food system that view transactions as isolated events. He insists that each transaction and advocate for local food sales plays a crucial role in changing the American food system. He argues that what might only be considered culturally influential now, such as gourmet restaurants featuring local food, may be the catalyst that propels change twenty years from now.

Rozyne envisions an America where local food is not only accessible, but serves as the dominant source of nourishment in the country. He approaches this goal with an admirable level of pragmatism, realizing that a massive shift must occur psychologically as well as economically in the minds of the American public. That said, some think that he is overly confident that Americans will choose to pay more for a higher quality product.

Liia Koiv-Haus, questions the ability of Red Tomato to survive in an economy where prices across the market have already skyrocketed. "Though I support local and organic produce, I'm concerned

LOCAL LOWDOWN 24

"THE SUMMER OF WALTER HACKS"

Drive up to Vergennes Union High School to watch a screening of a coming-of-age movie about a young Vermont boy. Set in 1952 and filmed partly in Vergennes and Ferrisburgh, it will be an especially interesting movie for those who know the area. \$5 donation for non-students is appreciated. For more information, call (802) 877-2211.

MAR. 8, 7 P.M. - 9 P.M.

HAPPY HOUR WITH THE MICHELLE FAY BAND

Celebrate the weekend with happy hour at Two Brothers. The Michelle Fay Band, a Vermont-based acoustic quartet, will be playing folk jams. This is a part of Two Brothers' live entertainment happy hour series.

MAR. 9, 4:30 P.M. - 6 P.M.

OLD BONES BENEFIT CONCERT AND DINNER

This Friday go up to the First Baptist Church of Bristol to listen to the Old Bones country and gospel singers. They are holding their fourth annual benefit concert for hungry children in Uganda. Includes a shepherd's pie supper from 5-6 p.m. followed by performances by Old Bones and the Shader Croft Band. Supper is \$10 for adults, \$6 for kids ages 6-12 and free for kids under 5. All proceeds go to the Village2Village Project.

MAR. 9, 5 P.M. - 9 P.M.

POTATO BAR IN CORNWALL

Want to go to the bar but are under-age? Don't worry! There will be a baked potato bar at the Cornwall Congregational Church where people will have a large assortment of toppings to put on their spuds. Fruit kabobs for dessert - question, are potatoes fruit? \$5 per person, \$20 family, this is a deal. For more information, call (802) 452-2012 or (802) 623-6891.

MAR. 9, 5:30 P.M. - 7 P.M.

MIDDLEBURY CHILI FESTIVAL

Craving some chili to warm you up? Head to town for the fourth annual Vermont Chili Festival. Try chili from the co-op, the fire station, and a variety of other chili-makers and pick your favorite! There will also be facepainting and live music at this event, which attracted over 3,000 people last year. It just costs \$3 for all the chili you can eat.

MAR. 10, 1:30 P.M.

"LILACS!"

Looking to expand your horticultural knowledge? Jeff Young, lilac curator at the University of Vermont Horticulture Farm, is presenting "Lilacs!" at the Ilsley Library in Middlebury. The event is free and sponsored by the Middlebury Garden Club. For more information, call 802-388-8268.

MAR. 13, 1:30 P.M. - 3 P.M.

FARM FRESH



By Rachel Porter

Last Thursday during lunch, the Woodin Colloquium Series brought Red Tomato Executive Director Michael Rozyne to campus. According to Rozyne, Red Tomato was created as a way to connect local family-run farms to customers. Red Tomato ensures that the farmers get a fair price for their product while simultaneously supplying grocery stores with produce that is of superior quality.

Rozyne acknowledges the hype surrounding the sustainable foods movement when he says, "There is so much jazz about local food now." But, despite media attention and trend-following foodies, only four percent of agricultural sales are composed of direct transactions between consumer and farmer. For a phenomenon that seems to be all the rage, this percentage seems devastatingly low.

This is where Red Tomato comes in.

Rozyne describes the organization as a "decentralized food hub" dependent on

A vote against EdLiberty

EDITORIAL

The official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

This past Sunday night, the Student Government Association (SGA) debated, and ultimately voted down, the EdLiberty Proposal presented by Brian Foster '13. Foster came up with the idea for

EdLiberty in response to what he perceived to be the lack of a dynamic online space for community forums, shared media and user-generated content. The proposed site would have four main components, including Bulletins, a place for student organizations to post events; Thinktank, a discussion forum for students; Newsroom, a space for faculty and students to share links to news articles; and a video library of various taped events at the College.

The proposal was presented at the most well-attended SGA meeting of the year. After a lengthy — and at times heated — debate, EdLiberty was rejected, seven votes to 10. While we recognize the value of collecting the extensive range of Middlebury conversations, events, media, activities and news in a single place, we support the SGA's decision. Many components of EdLiberty already exist online — MidLink, MidLab, MidNotes — albeit in distinct locations. We envision Portal as a potential space for just the sort of dynamic, personalized, user-generated conversations and media sharing for which EdLiberty was purposed. Although Portal definitely remains a work in progress, we believe that it has the potential to fulfill most of the same needs and goals proposed by Foster's project.

We find the student turnout at Sunday's SGA meeting impressive and indicative of the degree to which this issue speaks to the

College community. Although the issue is clearly contentious and divisive — the debate over the proper use of Student Activity Fee monies drove the discourse Sunday night, and the future of those reserves is still in question — we hope that this passionate concern will translate into increased dialogue between students and the administration and improvement in the form and function of the Portal interface. Officials from both the office of the Dean of the College and Library and Information Services (LIS) actively seek both student input and their direct involvement in working to improve the site. We hope that the intense student interest shown by Sunday's SGA meeting will inspire the administration to take advantage of student interest by publicizing ways that students can get involved in a concrete way to refine Portal's features.

Foster remains committed to establishing EdLiberty on campus, and we look forward to

seeing the development of his project. In the meantime, we remain satisfied with the SGA's decision to withhold funding. We have faith that Portal, though flawed in its current state, can respond to the need that Foster and his supporters perceive.

We encourage students to challenge and scrutinize the SGA's use of Student Activity Fee funds and to enter into dialogue with their senators about what sorts of projects, initiatives and activities this massive sum should finance. We also appreciate Foster's and others' identification of the need for open community discourse and shared multimedia online — yet we believe Portal, not EdLiberty, can best serve this function. Students must communicate and work with LIS and student affairs officials to ensure that Portal serves their needs and is relevant and useful to them.

The Middlebury Campus

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Prop 8 revisited

Professor Kevin Moss responded to my column regarding the courts and Prop 8 last week with an impassioned case for marriage equality ("Response to Prop 8: marriage as a right," March 1), which missed the central contention: that the court is an inappropriate venue. He makes a compelling case for same-sex marriage, but not for judicial subjugation of republican governance.

Professor Moss begins by discussing the debates leading up to Vermont's adoption of gay marriage. These debates actually support my contention: namely, that the democratic process is the best method to decide the issue.

The popularly elected Vermont legislature passed bill H275 to allow same-sex marriages in 2009, overriding Governor Jim Douglas's veto to do so. No judge had to impose it on its citizens.

FROM THE BENCH

Kelsi Morgan '14 is from Owasso, Okla.

He next turns to Judge White's DOMA decision, in which Judge White found that marriage is a fundamental right. Judge White, as Moss points out, argued that same-sex marriage is a fundamental right, and declared gays and lesbians a suspect class requiring elevated scrutiny. On the first point, Judge White ruled incorrectly (see the column's reference to *Palko v. Connecticut* in which fundamental rights are defined as those "rooted in the traditions and conscience of our people" and essential for "ordered liberty"). On the second, White incorrectly declared same-sex couples a suspect class, contrary to the findings of existing case law, which stipulates that suspect classes must be politically powerless, a contention which strains credulity when applied to homosexuals.

Next, he turns to *Loving v. Virginia*. There's a rich Supreme Court history related to this case. The binding Supreme Court case law is *Baker v. Nelson* (1972), in which a same-sex couple, citing an

equal protection violation on the basis of *Loving v. Virginia*, was denied a trial at the Supreme Court, based on "[a] want of a substantial federal question." In short, the Constitution does not speak of same-sex marriage — even in the emanations and penumbras of the 14th amendment.

In deciding *Baker*, the Court agreed with the Supreme Court of Minnesota's majority opinion, which stated that "Loving does indicate that not all state restrictions upon the right to marry are beyond the reach of the Fourteenth Amendment. But there is a clear distinction between a marital restriction based merely upon race and one based upon the fundamental difference in sex."

As for the dissenting opinion of "Mormon judge Randy Smith," Moss claims that Judge Smith wrote that there is no evidence or rational basis for denying gay couples the right to marry.

I think Judge Smith would be surprised to hear he wrote that. In fact, if you look to his dissent, he cites reasons to uphold the traditional notion of marriage that, I'm assuming, Moss finds irrational. Let us always mind our citations.

He also refers to opponents wanting the "tapes kept private." He is referring here to tapes of the Prop 8 proceedings that Judge Walker promised to keep private. His successor, Judge Ware, wanted to release the tapes. The ninth Circuit (the same court whose ruling Moss praises in his column) ruled that this was acting in bad faith. His side note is a non-issue.

In his article, Moss also cites Judge White's opinion, in which he claims that the majority cannot impose subjective moral beliefs on the minority.

Law is a function of morality, notions of which are inherently subjective. In the United States, laws are decided through republican governance informed by the Constitution. The people of California voted to disallow gay marriage in their state, democratically banning a morally subjective practice.

Now, I'll address his broader point that

the court system is the appropriate vehicle for achieving same-sex marriage. Right now, the Constitution, as interpreted by Supreme Court case law, allows each state to create their own policies on same-sex marriage, which means that some states (like Vermont and five — soon to be seven — other states) recognize same-sex marriages, and others (like Oklahoma and 28 other states via constitutional amendments, and 12 more via statutes) do not.

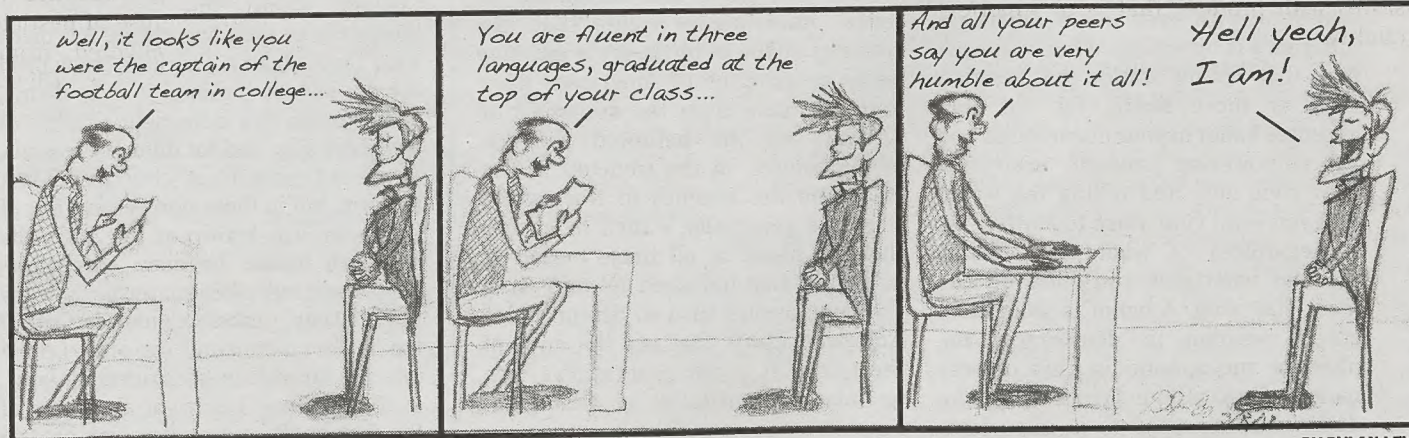
Further than this, though, the Supreme Court, thus far, has refused to even agree that granting same-sex couples equal rights, in areas such as parenting, is mandatory. In Oct. 2011, the Court declined hearing a case that dealt with these rights. In the case, a same-sex California couple adopted a baby from Louisiana. The two fathers wanted their names on the baby's birth certificate. Louisiana refused because, in their state, same-sex marriages are not recognized.

The Supreme Court allowed this decision to stand. Clearly, the issue is not as simple as Moss presents it.

Moss is a passionate advocate for this cause; however, the courts are not a legislative alternative to be used when the democratic process fails to result in individuals' preferred policies. In fact, doing so can set back the very cause they advocate. Supreme Court Justice Ginsburg articulated this lesson earlier this year.

Justice Ginsburg discussed her regrets that *Roe v. Wade* moved as quickly as it did. She believes that there would have been more support for abortion nationwide had the Court not imposed abortion from above, effectively nullifying all progress that each state had made individually.

Gay marriage advocates will be better served in the long-term by using the force of their arguments to persuade voters across the country of the justness of their cause, rather than relying on court mandates from on high to impose gay marriage on the country.



BY DYLAN LEVY

“The Husband”

After 3.5 years at Middlebury, some of the stuff that I’ve seen has finally begun to abstract itself into apparent cultural, social and pedagogic trends and types. Until 1998, *Seinfeld* gave the world nomenclature for nameless phenomena we knew all too well: “sidler” (someone appears next to you without warning), “shrinkage” (yes, that) and the “preemptive break-up.” Since 2009, FX’s *The League* has helped fill *Seinfeld*’s void of coining terms — albeit with less cultural relevance —

THE MIDDLEBURY MINT

Ethan Mann ’12 is from Norwich, Vt.

and has given us a few gems such as “boyfriend chameleon” and “charity terrorist” (one who solicits donations in a situation where it is socially impossible to

decline). While these terms may be of very little practical use, it is often nice to know that the world (Middlebury) is not a completely absurdist, random and entropic place, and that sometimes, patterns do occur. In this column, I hope to name a few.

Middlebury has long had the legendary reputation of a very expensive matchmaking service. I think someone actually tried to tell me the marriage rate was over 50 percent, rather high for our campus’s “terrible dating scene,” eh? Needless to say, there are many eligible singles we’d all be lucky to marry. But some are a little more eligible than others and just a little more single. We’ve all met “The Husband”: the boy/man, who is great with parents, says, “that woman has beautiful eyes” without irony and is universally described as “nice.” Unfortunately, it seems the “The Husband” can only secure a place in a woman or man’s future, and not his or

her present.

In relentless pursuit of truth, I spoke with some women about suspected Husbands. The responses ranged from “they’re so punctual!” and “I love that I can hang out with them without being hit on,” to “they would make some other girl so happy.” But it was the elegantly simple comment of “later” that told me more, illustrating the nuance between the black hole of the “friend zone” and “Husbandry.” For the Husband, the appeal does not stem from his platonic good listening skills, but rather from the more primal feeling that he would be a great father to your kids (but perhaps not sire them) and definitely stay out of jail.

The earliest recorded instance of a Husband that I found was from 371 C.E. In a small town called Thagaste, in what is now Algeria, a promiscuous boy named Augustine lived a hedonistic lifestyle and was disinclined to settle down at such a young age. You will perhaps remember his most famous quote: “Lord, grant me chastity, but not yet,” and he stood by that, waiting until the ’90s to enter the priesthood. Thus, Augustine made God the first Husband, putting him on the back burner for over twenty years, astutely leading him on by prayer until the vows were taken.

In reality, the Husband probably doesn’t exist, apart from in the shallow fantasies of the Augustines of our time. Most people I’ve met who have faced charges of temperance, being “vanilla” and having “respectable” haircuts have stood wrongfully accused on the first two counts, because, deep down, everybody has an opinionated, long-haired punk in a Whitesnake jacket waiting to be coaxed out. So ladies (and gentlemen), don’t complain about Midd’s abysmal dating scene and instead invest in your future by giving the Husbands (and wives!) a chance.

IT IS OUR GENERATION’S TURN

If you’ve ever been to Arlington National Cemetery, you know what it’s like to walk between those white crosses row on row, their ghoulish white glow standing out against the vibrant green grass, a stark contrast of death and life. It’s a truly solemn experience. The lives of men and women buried

there were the ultimate sacrifice to the ideals on which this nation, unlike any other in the world, was founded. During election years like this one, those ideals shine the brightest.

With all the screaming and fear-mongering and body-slamming that has seemingly taken over our politics today, you may say to yourself: why should I care, why should I get involved in the mud-slinging, why should I vote when it doesn’t even matter anymore?

Well, as easy as it is to be cynical about everything politics-related, the easiest way to even begin making a difference is by voting. When you walk into that voting station on Election Day, or more likely, fill out that absentee ballot in your dorm room, you are empowering yourself, exercising your civic duty and telling the world that you want your voice to matter.

Regardless of what your beliefs are and what gets you riled up the most, just vote. A ballot is your most potent weapon in democracy, the ultimate megaphone in this diverse nation of 300 million. Yes, reading the dining hall newspapers is important. Yes, going to D.C. to protest the Keystone pipeline is important. Yes,

ranting about gay marriage or the war in Afghanistan to your friends is important. But nothing beats voting. Every ballot has the power to change the direction of the country. Just think about it, you possess the power to hire and fire the people who run your country. How could anyone refuse to exercise such power?

But of course, it all starts with registering yourself! Election Day 2012 may be months away, but between the busy spring semester, that summer internship and getting back to school, registering to vote might just slip to the back burner. That’s why you should drop by Crossroads Café sometime today between 4:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. and register yourself earlier rather than later. Already registered? Come apply for an absentee ballot. No matter which state you hail from or even if you have never voted before, students from MiddVote will be there to help.

From public squares in Cairo and Moscow to bloodied streets in Damascus and Tripoli, millions around the globe are struggling to secure fundamental rights that are yours by virtue of birth. It’s a gift that many generations of Americans have fought to save from the doorsteps of tyranny, on the hallowed grounds of Gettysburg, in the trenches of the Bulge, on the beaches in Normandy. It is our generation’s turn to ensure that the blood of all those buried at Arlington was not shed in vain. It is our generation’s turn to defend those American ideals that are the envy of the world. It is our generation’s turn to take responsibility of this great republic.

That responsibility begins with registering to vote.

“Pill”ow talk

The economy continues to take a backseat as Washington and the media debate whether or not health insurance should cover birth control and, more importantly, to what extent religiously affiliated employers are exempt from this policy. The Democrats have framed the partisan debate as an issue on women’s health, while the Republicans criticize the trespass on religious rights. Conservative talk-show host Rush Limbaugh enraged feminists by criticizing Georgetown University Law student and women’s rights activist Sarah Fluke for her position on insuring contraception.

He mocked her for having “so much sex she can’t afford it” and accused her of being a prostitute because she would ask the taxpayer to fund her sexual activities. This offensive condemnation resulted in sponsors pulling adds from Limbaugh’s radio show.

In his tirade, Limbaugh likened the taxpayers forced to pay for the insurance of contraception to “pimps” and “johns.” Although vulgar and inappropriate, he does raise the concern of how much big government under Obama will cost each American. Fluke lamented that she could not afford birth control because of the high cost of law school. By insuring birth control, however, many Americans, both men and women, who do not use contraception will be stuck with higher premiums. What’s

next? Condoms? Gym memberships? Both support women’s health.

This all gets back to the issue of entitlement. Why does Fluke feel entitled to birth control? Especially when she, like the majority of women on contraception, use it out of convenience for their social life, rather than medical reasons. The government’s job is not to ensure that Americans practice safe sex. Americans are responsible for their own health. If the progressive nanny

state growing under Obama continues to try to protect Americans from every possible mishap or sickness, Washington will never get a handle on America’s ballooning deficits.

GOP candidate Rick Santorum attacked the mandate by condemning birth control as a “license to do things in a sexual realm that are counter to how things are supposed to be.” This parochial view does not further the conservative dialogue in this debate. A true conservative argument against insurance companies providing free contraception should also be an attack against big government. For that reason, not only am I opposed to Mrs. Obama and her Obesity Campaign counting my calories, but also I do not want her husband and his health care plan accompanying me in the bedroom.

ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Katie Earle ’12 is from Bedminster, N.J.

THE Snow Bowl

I have a common refrain with my friends from home. It’s a typical Tuesday afternoon. I hear that familiar Talking Heads ringtone, smile, and answer the phone. The first thing I hear: “Yo — look at the Colorado snow report. They are getting duuuuumped on!!!! Why did I ever leave the ‘rado??” It’s always depressing. It always makes me hurt a little inside, because this winter especially, I look out my Pearsons window out onto Battell Beach, and I see grass. It sucks. But then it’s my turn to carve out a little more of my friend’s soul: “I know, but look at the Vermont snow report. I just got back from the Snow Bowl, and it’s ripping! It might not be Champagne Powder™, but I’ll take it.” It makes my friends feel worse. The ice’s toll on my edges makes my skis feel even less loved. But therein lies the rub. I skied today!

When people ask me what makes my school special, why Middlebury isn’t Bowdoin or Williams or bland Northeastern liberal arts school X, Y or Z, the answer is simple: I can ski. Any time I want, I can take the 25-minute trip to the Middlebury College Snow Bowl and shred. I came to Vermont pre-jaded, firmly indoctrinated into the Western prejudice of the superiority of Colorado’s Rockies. I heard that the Green Mountains should be called the Green Molehills. I was advised to break out the reel and rod because ice-fishing Vermont’s slopes made more sense than skiing them.

The stories I heard all contained a grain of truth. Vermont skiing is not Colorado skiing. This isn’t Tahoe, or Steamboat or even Sugarbush. But that’s what I love about it. Our little Snow Bowl can be just as thrilling, just as divine, just as much of a downright gnarfest as anywhere else, and for different reasons. You’re not going to get 5,000 feet of vert in a run, but in those 900 vertical feet of fresh corduroy known as the Allen, the rush can indeed be more adrenaline-filled, more rad, more gnartastic than any Lover’s Leap, Corbet’s Couloir or Gate D the “greater mountains” can offer. Let me take you through an Allen run at the bowl.

The journey begins at the crest of the first knoll, and as you look around you can physically feel the breath ripped from your gut. The panoramic

view of the Green Mountains and the surrounding valley belongs in an IMAX theater. You can see for miles — snow-laden pines, untouched by the voracious axes of progress, swarm the mountains in all directions, hiding all signs of man. The purity of it all, the timelessness, the feeling that Velociraptors must have walked this very ground, evokes the primal sense that Edmund Hillary must have felt upon first reaching the top of the world. The “Allen” sign is iced over, wind-blown icicles hanging from the bottom of the mottled wood at odd angles.

You regain your breath, and let gravity take you over the edge, into the abyss. In the pit of your stomach a top-of-the-roller-coaster feeling overtakes you, and for a moment you feel weightless. Then the edges of your skis dig into the snow, and suddenly you are in control. The slope of the Allen is just right. You can open the throttle and cruise along with the best of them, but rarely is it too fast.

One turn becomes five, six, 10, and suddenly you have found your rhythm. The balance has tipped and your movements are no longer coming from your head — your body seems to know what to do, bending and leaning in time to a silent tune only it can hear. A true skiing rhythm is an out-of-body experience. As the little guy behind the curtain from *The Wizard of Oz* pulls the levers and sends out the flying monkeys and smoke, you can escape the real world and find your Happy Place (Carl Weathers piano-playing included, obvi).

The Snow Bowl isn’t just groomers, however. It has a backside replete with a tasty mélange of great tree-skiing, hidden cliffs, and sweet little freshie pow-stashes. As a Ski Patrolter who skis the Bowl at least twice a week, I can tell you that the actual trails constitute maybe half of the skiing available, and perhaps not the better half.

Our Middlebury Snow Bowl is a uniquely fun, cozy, and exciting place. We are lucky enough to have a snow-filled Disney Land in our backyard, and you can get a season’s pass for a C-note. What are you waiting for?

RED’S RANT

Caleb Cunningham ’14 is from Denver, Colo.

Empty debate on EdLiberty

We live in a time where the notion that professional politics is corrupting need not be qualified. Unprecedented Congressional gridlock, momentarily influential campaign spending in local, state and federal elections and the disappointing pragmatism of the Obama administration have come to speak for themselves.

But the same assumptions are not made for representative bodies such as our own Student Government Association; for community associations who are afforded an intimacy with their constituents and a flexibility of mandate that elected leaders within society at-large simply do not enjoy.

And yet, at Sunday's SGA Senate meeting, devoted in large part to debating the merits of funding EdLiberty — a proposed Internet platform that would facilitate and centralize greater community accountability and participation — it became all too clear

how universally corrupting politics may be.

Because in the end, the discussion was held hostage to the fiscal conservatism of our very own Finance Committee and to the egotism to which we are all susceptible in the presence of power.

The debate did not feature substantive discussion on a) how we completely lack a discussion forum where topics are chosen by the community in a manner that is sustainable and accountable, b) how this precise deficit results in on-line, anonymous mudslinging that only exacerbates dividedness, c) the immense benefits of an accessible online video archive of guest lectures, student concerts, classes and panel discussions, and d) the absence of a centralized calendar where all community members can post athletic events, guest speakers, concerts, poetry nights, discussion groups and planning meetings for community wide-initiatives. The discussion did not emphasize the need for an aesthetically pleasing, user-friendly designed, centralized platform for students too busy and too technologically savvy to tolerate anything less. The deliberations did not do EdLiberty justice.

Instead, the conversation focused around the appropriateness of \$33,500 of Student Activities Fee money, featured the growing bitterness of the SGA after having been asked multiple times by the administration to share the costs of such programming (Old Chapel had committed to matching the SGA money were it granted) and exposed an arbitrary willingness to compromise on the quality of our resources.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars

of spending for non-NCAA athletics, weekend programming, first year outdoor orientation, the commons, the yearbook, and interest houses — funding that serves a subset of the student population — was justified, but appropriating some \$13 per student for a resource that could serve every single member of this community every year going forward was thrown under the bus. Somehow, the need to rollover between \$100,000 and \$300,000 of unspent money into next year's budget was also asserted, without legitimate reasoning.

MiddNotes, MiddLink, Portal and MiddBlog were simultaneously offered as adequate alternatives to EdLiberty. Their lack of effective aesthetics, user-friendliness, user-defined content, requisite accountability, forum for sustained community-wide discussion and centralization failed to outweigh their simple pre-existence.

Let's remind ourselves of a few things. 1. This is not a community that compromises on quality. 2. We are not a generation with the patience and scrappiness to fight through bad design and decentralization to make discussion possible, nor are we naturally accountable to each other. 3. Much work remains before the divisiveness of privilege, race, class, gender, disability, sexual orientation, alcohol, empathy, gender based violence, exclusion and health related issues can even begin to be resolved or reflected upon on this campus. 4. Few possess the time and the flexibility and the confidence to attend and actively participate in already occurring events and forums. 5. Participating in continued discussion, and creating greater access to events and programming on campus would only serve to enhance activities already funded by the SGA. 6. The mandate for rolling money over to the following year has been assumed, not granted to our SGA by the people whose tuition provides their budget (students).

Left alone, politics is corrupting, surely. But if we are to challenge dominant norms of inequality, exclusion, egotism and corruption, we must first challenge them inside of ourselves. If we are to work to influence professional politics, at whatever level, at some future time, we must know first and foremost that high levels of intimacy with constituent needs and of flexibility can be honored by local representative associations. If we are to judge every idea and initiative we must do so not by their 'appropriateness' to whatever institutional mission but by their potential to bring about a better world. We need EdLiberty, but more than that, we need an SGA that can put aside its pride and its arbitrary and conservative interpretation of its own mandate in order to truly serve this community.

Race-blind admissions: ahistorical and outdated

Kelsi Morgan '14's column in the *Campus* last week ("Altering Affirmative Action," March 1) argued against any racially conscious admissions policy, using the Equal Protection Clause under the 14th Amendment as her justification.

The 14th Amendment is a tricky one. In February, the ninth Circuit invoked it to rule California's Proposition 8 unconstitutional. In a *Campus* article appearing a week earlier, Morgan analyzed the same amendment to find Prop. 8 constitutionally sound.

The Supreme Court's precedent over the past four decades holds that racially conscious admissions decisions do not violate the 14th Amendment and are not, therefore, unconstitutional. As Morgan noted, however, at least four current justices may challenge this precedent. I'm no legal scholar. Recognizing this, I won't explore the history of the Equal Protection Clause debate. Morgan certainly didn't.

I appreciate Morgan's opinion. I have discussed this issue with several students and friends, many of whom I respect deeply, and I admit that the constitutional case against affirmative action can be strong. Many Middlebury students in years past have weighed in as well. I encourage any reader to search the *Campus* online archives from 2003-2004 on affirmative action, especially Crystal Belle '04's and Amber Hillman '05's op-eds.

From my perspective, the case for racially blind admissions is ahistorical and grounded in outdated universalist ideals.

A system that judges people based on where they are now without considering where they came from is ahistorical. White privilege, a system of societal benefits granted to white people at other racial groups' expense, is not a 21st century invention, though its present-day effects are enhanced through a historical legacy of racism in the U.S. For instance, if hypothetical Alex's parents or grandparents were given access to higher education through a government program (e.g. the G.I. Bill) at a time when people of Alex's racial group were given substantially greater access to higher education because of existing systems of oppression (e.g. inequitable school funding and inequitable access to jobs), then the superior jobs with which Alex's parents paid for Alex's superior education are a legacy of historical racism.

The money that paid for Alex's SAT classes, writing tutor and science camps may have been largely a product of Alex's

parents' hard work, but their whiteness played a role in their success, and by extension, Alex's academic profile. In the United States, America's historical legacy of racism has led to wealth disparities on the order of 10:1 in favor of whites to blacks and 8:1 in favor of whites to Latinos. This example is relatively easy to understand, and I'd argue that many reasonable people would not disagree with it as a premise.

The controversy is in taking this one step further: are Alex's parents' and grandparents' generations' understandings of race able to spill over into today's education system, today's racial expectations when dispensing bank loans and today's housing markets, among other areas? They can and they do. Eighty-four percent of America's teachers are white,

and they teach a national student body that is only 58 percent white, according to a 2003

study by the **Michael Campbell '12** is from Haddonfield, N.J.

National Center for Education Statistics. This leads to many classrooms focusing time on Emily Dickinson and the Teapot Dome Scandal when its students are more interested in Pablo Neruda and Marcus Garvey. Redlining in bank loans is a fact of modern American life for many people of color. So is housing discrimination. If these factors constitute a substantial de facto presence in our society, should our school admissions offices be allowed to acknowledge that?

Why not? A student with similar scores to Alex may demonstrate greater potential to a school in light of having dealt with greater levels of adversity. That past experience with and overcoming of adversity may even make that other student more attractive. To have systemic de facto discrimination without allowing for corrective measures is to legally sanction that today's oppression run its course unless corrected elsewhere. Race-conscious admissions decisions simply assess the facts on the ground, exposing "colorblind" admissions as insufficient.

Further, and contrary to popular claims, taking race into consideration does not preclude considerations of socioeconomic status, first-generation college applicant status, academic standing or extracurriculars.

Affirmative action policies are also not a panacea, but that's a different topic for a different time.

READER OP-ED

READER OP-ED

Rhiya Trivedi '12 is from Ontario, Canada.

The time for conversation

A response to "The time for honesty," Jan. 26 by Sam Koplinka-Loehr, Mahnaz Rezaie, and Fayeze Haj Hassan and "The time for personal responsibility," Feb. 16 by Kathryn DeSutter:

The rest of the groggy students and I received the syllabi for our introductory music class. As I turned the pages, I was baffled by the workload being asked: a total of 65 pages of typed response papers and essays

to be handed in throughout the semester. I know of theses of such length. I very much wanted to take the class, but the workload as stated was, to me, not feasible, and judging from the clarification questions of my fellow students, they agreed. But what were my options? Was there anything I could do but drop the class? Later that day I ended up drafting an email communicating my strong interest in the class but the seemingly impossible amount of work being asked for a class of that level. I looked it over and hesitantly clicked "send."

Having just come back from being abroad for seven months, I definitely feel like I have a fresh perspective on what Sam Koplinka-Loehr, Mahnaz Rezaie, and Fayeze Haj Hassan and Kathryn DeSutter

have been discussing in the past few editions of the *Campus*'s op-ed section. My study abroad experience was the definition of "learning outside of the classroom." Best of all, I was able to take advantage of the amazing resources I found in my European friends, not only enjoying time with them but truly learning from them.

It is true that academically, Middlebury is superior to my Spanish university. However, I must agree with Koplinka-Loehr, Rezaie and Haj Hassan when they note that workload can often get in the way of embracing the "out of the classroom" learning that is begging to take place here at Middlebury. The sheer number of lectures, extracurriculars, clubs, grants for independent projects and other such opportunities is immense. The vast resources of our college are not only found in books at the library. Yet I feel that academics themselves often hinder this sort of "out of the classroom" growth. There is no balance. Academic and out-of-class learning should not be mutually exclusive.

As I wrote the email to my professor, I couldn't help feeling both powerless and weak. Middlebury has an underlying current of thought on workload, a "just take it" attitude. Professors assign amounts of reading and other assignments, and the students are expected to put their heads

down and dig in, lest they be pegged as a "weak" or "lazy." I was filled with such fears as I wrote to my professor. Will he get mad at me? Am I allowed to do this? Will he see me as a weak student? Students take this attitude and run with it, creating an even healthier environment in which not only do the professors not receive feedback from their students vis-à-vis their assigned workload, but also the students amplify these attitudes related to workload amongst themselves. Just try and tell your friends during midterms (which, by the way, seem to encompass the majority of the semester) that you're not stressed out. You will be met with more than a few death stares, more than a few scorns, and more than a few questions of the academic strength of your schedule. "If you can't take the heat get out of the kitchen" is not a productive environment in which to be a student, where personal growth is put on hold for finishing those last 50 pages of reading at all costs.

There is no easy, one-size-fits-all solution to this issue. A constant workload across the disciplines is neither possible nor practical, and each student defines for him or herself what workload he or she is capable of. However, what we do need to do is start a conversation, which I am glad the two aforementioned pieces have done. We need faculty and students to come

together to create a community in which it is not deemed heretical to question a given course's workload. Students need to feel comfortable expressing these concerns, and professors need to be open in responding to them.

The day before our next meeting my class received an email from the professor, putting forth a revised syllabus with regards to the number of assignments due. I was glad that the student-professor communication worked out in the end, though it was not in time for the nearly half of the class who dropped. I will never know if I was indeed the only one who wrote to my professor, or if my classmates expressed their concern as well. It's not something you talk about. And this is exactly what needs to change.

After having written a first draft of this article, I considered not sending it in. I had enough stuff to do. Was it worth it? After this past Saturday however (which was gorgeous, if you don't recall) when nearly all of my friends were confined to the library, some from 9 in the morning, because of work, I knew I couldn't hold out. These are students showing the very "personal responsibility" DeSutter calls for. But if this is truly what personal responsibility means, in my humble opinion there is something very, very wrong. Frankly, I think it's time for a conversation.

READER OP-ED

Christian Schooning '13 is from Woodbury, N.J.

Making space

I was sitting with a plate of food and my computer, and was entirely focused on this inanimate company as three senior men took the seats across from me. A conversation that started as a friendly acknowledgement soon turned into a very earnest and concerned investigation of my somewhat negative opinions about Middlebury. Kennedy Mugo, Alex Bea and James Maru talked with and offered advice to me for almost an hour in an attempt to understand and take away the problems I have with the College. To be sure, I left the Atwater dining hall that afternoon with a smile that didn't fade at least until I passed Wright Theatre, a smile that was a

READER OP-ED

Lily Andrews '14 is
from Minneapolis, Mn.

testament to the sense of connection that I felt with these three young men and the genuine concern that they felt for me.

However, I didn't agree with all of what they told me, or with their general response to my sentiment. As I ruminated about what had been said, I realized that I felt ambivalent about the conversation because I hadn't been able to effectively communicate my feelings. I hadn't been fully understood. What I had intended to express was that I had a problem with Middlebury — in fact, many problems — and what they had assumed was that that was a problem. Immediately after I declared myself as “not Middlebury's biggest fan” they wanted to know what it was that I disliked about this College. Tell us and we'll find you the solution, they said.

This kind of reaction takes for granted that just because I have a problem that I want to solve it, and sends the message that it's not okay for me to not like Middlebury. This reaction is not unique to Mugo, Alex and James; rather, their reaction is indicative of the culture on campus.

For me to be dissatisfied at Middlebury is not ideal, but it is also not dangerous or threatening, which is actually how we treat it. If a student here feels unhappy and reveals this, likely, she is quite immediately made to understand that there is not space here for her unhappiness at this college, and that she needs to leave until she can live up to the largely unachievable standard of psychological “normalcy” that Middlebury requires.

Specifically, said unhappy student is

expected to, first, either become more involved on campus in order to change whatever it is that she identifies as a problem or go to the counseling center (or see a therapist or psychiatrist in town, insurance and finances allowing). If she remains unhappy, she is probably asked to take medical leave for a semester or two until she feels ready to come back. Granted, this is an over-simplification, and among many nuances, some communities on campus are more allowing of these negative sentiments, but, in general, the dominant response to the unhappy student implies that the problem is wholly hers, and that we only accept students here who are smiling.

This kind of response is exhausting, anxiety provoking and deeply hurtful to those who can't help but have the feeling that they are unhappy here. It also creates a rigid community that only accepts one kind of attitude — liking Middlebury — which is a difficult state to achieve at all times, and therefore hurts every student who at one point or another feels disenchanting with the college.

In light of my argument, I find it especially interesting to reflect on the popular reaction to my friend Rhiya Trivedi's “Open Break-up Letter,” published in the Jan. 19 issue of the *Campus* during winter term. Students essentially told her to stop complaining. Although I don't agree with this characterization of her informed critique, I want to ask, why can't she complain? (It's a separate issue altogether to examine the privilege in all of this: maybe, I sometimes self-consciously think, it is because I have so much opportunity that I even see the option to resist the Middlebury education). And yet, the qualms that Rhiya and I have about Middlebury are real, and we have the right to express them. Why do our fellow students refuse to listen?

If we are to foster in our community a more inclusive response to those of us on campus who don't feel completely content, we need to first end the silence around unhappiness, discontentment and dissatisfaction, in a way that allows for expression of these real yet shamed feelings. We need to make space to allow these sentiments in their unsolved, potentially disruptive form. We need to stop asking students to rationalize, figure out and solve their unhappiness. Rather than exhort them to leave, we need to make space for these students at Middlebury for as long as they want to be here.



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TRACK & FIELD

2010/2011 RECORD

M 3RD IN NESCACS W 2ND

CAPTAINS

M SAM MILLER '12, JASON JAN '12, MICHAEL DOWNEY '12
W JULIA SISSON '12, REBECCA FANNING '12, MARGO CRAMER '12

With so many school and personal records set during the winter track & field season, the Panthers appear well-positioned to continue their success into a breakout spring. Last year's season additionally points to the promise of Middlebury track & field, with many Panther runners honored by various post-season awards in 2011. Current runners Margo Cramer '12 and Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 were All-Americans for the women's side; the men's team distinctions included Most Outstanding Rookie Performer, won by Peter Hetzler '14, and two All-Americans, Jack Davies '13 and Michael Schmidt '12. Furthermore, the 2011 Middlebury men boasted the highest cumulative GPA in the nation. As the indoor season winds to a close with NCAA's this weekend, March 9-10, and the weather begins to thaw, the track & field teams will transition to a new surface while looking to continue the impressive successes of the season so far.

"Our focus as a team has always been on the outdoor season, so a great indoor run gives us a solid foundation for the upcoming months," said men's team tri-captain Sam Miller '12. "As spring unfolds, the team, which is broken into several event groups, begins to congeal as we try to gear up to finish high at the NESCAC championships and our other post-season meets."

"Both the women and men's teams are looking strong this year, with several new additions and depth in the jumping and throwing squads as well as sprinters and distance runners," added women's tri-captain Julia Sisson '12. "We are looking for this season to be full of many more impressive performances culminating in a strong turnout in all the event groups at NESCACS." Hopes and expectations for this year's record-setting track & field team will be put to the test during their spring break trip to San Diego.



MEN'S LACROSSE

2010/2011 RECORD

13-5

CAPTAINS

MATT RAYNER '12, ALEX ENGLERT '12, PETER JENNINGS '12

By no stretch of the imagination could one call the 2011 version of Middlebury men's lacrosse a disaster. The 13-5 side from a year ago came within an OT goal of winning the NESCAC championship game against Tufts, and then advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament before losing a close away game to rival Amherst. Nonetheless, defenseman Henry Clark '12 was quick to point out that the tough losses of a year ago will not easily be forgotten.

"We are all very competitive people who want to win every game we play, regardless of the opponent," said Clark. "Therefore, absolutely some games from the end of last season left a bad taste in our mouths." In their quest to get rid of this bad taste, however, the Panthers will be missing several cornerstone pieces from a year ago. First and third leading point-scorers David Hild '11 (47 goals, 20 assists) and Andrew Conner '11 (42 goals, 8 assists), along with starting goalie Ryan Deane '11.5 (13-5 record) all graduated recently. Nevertheless, the change in personnel does not have Clark, or any of the Panthers, worried.

"Nate Gaudio '14 is a great goalie who saves the ball well and is great in the clearing game," said Clark, "while Tim Cahill '12, Erich Pfeffer '13, Mike Giordano '13 and Quinn Cronan '14 are all very capable offensive threats."

The Panthers open up the 2012 campaign this Saturday at home against Bates, a game that the team has been waiting for since they walked off the field May 14 at Amherst.

"Guys worked hard this offseason to get ready for the spring, whether by running, working on stick skills, or training in the weight room," said Clark. "Everyone is very excited for the Bates game. We have had a few scrimmages, but we are all ready to play someone in a different jersey with the scoreboard on."



WOMEN'S TENNIS

2010/2011 RECORD

NESCAC SEMIFINALISTS, NCAA REGIONAL FINALISTS

CAPTAINS

N/A

The Middlebury College women's tennis team is moving into their spring season with NCAA Championship gold in mind. Coming off strong individual and doubles performances at the 2011 NEWITT Championships hosted by Mount Holyoke, the final tournament of their fall season, the women have their eye on many tough NESCAC wins and even a National Championship. Led by coach of six years, Mike Morgan, and by seniors Tori Aiello '12, Anna Burke '12 and Alyssa Puccinelli '12, the women's team has decided to focus on personal responsibility and accountability by refraining from choosing team captains.

Fresh talent to the squad includes Emily Alper '15, Lok-Sze Leung '15, Sarah Macy '15 and Katie Paradies '15. The team kicks off their spring season next weekend at home with the Middlebury Invitational, where they will go up against Brandeis, Hamilton and Bates. The team's toughest conference match-ups will come later in the season; they face Amherst College and Tufts University in late April as well as four-time consecutive NCAA Division III champions, Williams College.

"We play nine of the top 25 teams in the country and six of those are in the top 10. Every match will be a good one," said Coach Morgan. "We know every match is going to be a good one. The ladies have put in a lot of work into conditioning, mental training, and overall have just put in good solid work into their games."

While the team has many steps to climb before they get there, an NCAA Division III Championship title is definitely on the women's and Coach Morgan's radar. The 2010-2011 women's team fell to Amherst in the regional finals of the Div. III NCAA tournament. This year Coach Morgan says, "We have been talking a lot about goals, and I think it is pretty clear to the team that we are capable of beating anyone in the country, but the team is also very aware of appreciating and respecting every single match we play."



WOMEN'S LACROSSE

2010/2011 RECORD

11-6

CAPTAINS

LUCY JACKSON '12, LIZ GARRY '12, LILY NGUYEN '12

Following an 11-6 season in which the women's lacrosse team advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament, the team returns five seniors who will be bolstered by a wealth of new talent from a large incoming first-year class.

The ninth-ranked Panthers open the season at 15th-ranked Bates Saturday, March 10. A season ago, Middlebury and Bates needed overtime to determine a winner in the league-opener. Sally Ryan '11 provided the overtime winner for the Panthers who will need to fill the shoes of one of the most prolific scorers in Middlebury history. Ryan graduated 10th in career goals and sixth in career assists in the team's history.

"[Ryan] was a leading scorer on our team and in our conference, so we will be looking for several players to step up in the scoring category," head coach Missy Foote said. "Liz Garry '12, Margaret Souther '13, Ellen Halle '13 and Steph Gill '12 are all strong scorers. We'll need more scoring from our midfielders this year."

Along with three of last year's four top scorers in Halle, Souther and Garry, the Panthers return senior tri-captain and reigning National Goalkeeper of the Year Lily Nguyen '12. In 2011 Nguyen posted a .510 save percentage and allowed just 9.25 goals per game.

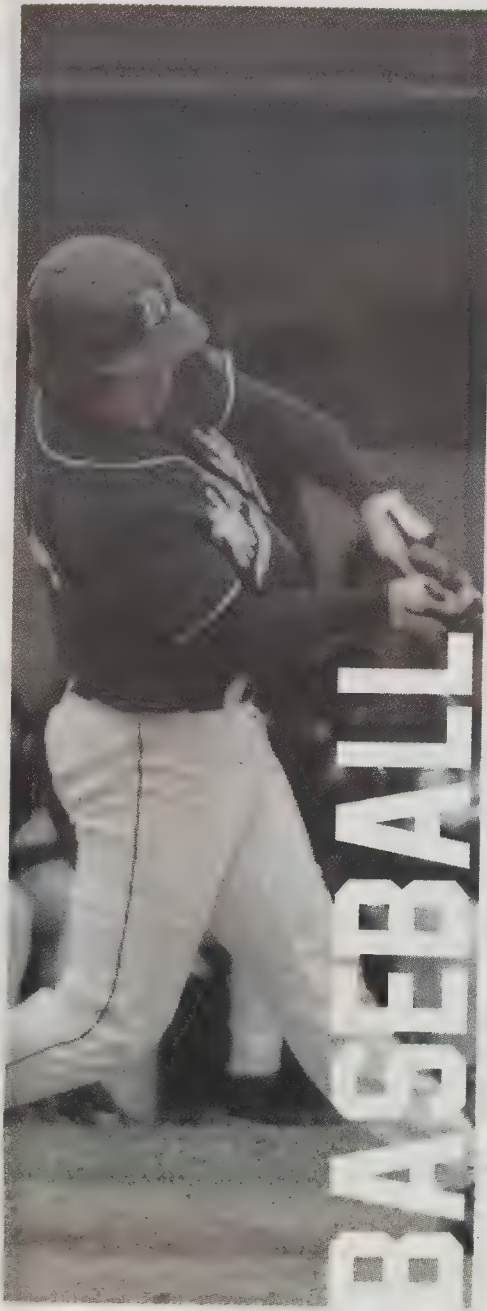
Nguyen and her fellow seniors have set the standard for the six first-years who will face their first test this weekend.

"The [first-years] are doing a great job of figuring things out thanks to the leadership from our seniors," Foote said.

While Foote is optimistic about her team and the contributions of its newest members, she'll know more once she has seen them in action.

"I look forward, every year, to seeing a new group of players come together," she said.

SPORTS PREVIEW



BASEBALL

2010/2011 RECORD
15-16

CAPTAINS
TYLER WARK '12, ZACH ROEDER '12, MICHAEL MORRIS '13

After making an appearance in the conference playoffs last year, the Middlebury baseball team rightfully considers themselves a team on the rise in the NESCAC. This team is brimming with confidence entering the 2012 season, built on the consensus that this is one of the best teams put together by Coach Bob Smith in recent memory.

"Right now morale is high in preparation for our annual trip to Arizona and the upcoming season," said tri-captain and second baseman Tyler Wark '12. "We're returning a lot of players, so leadership and experience won't be a problem on the field."

Last year's squad finished 15-16, with the season culminating in back-to-back losses to Tufts and Amherst in the NESCAC tournament. This year's team returns catcher Zach Roeder '12 and third baseman Thomas Rafferty '13, both of whom were all-NESCAC selections last season. Roeder led the team in all three major offensive categories last season, batting .431 to go along with three home runs and 30 RBIs. Rafferty finished with a batting average of .342, and also added 17 RBIs.

This year's pitching staff looks to be anchored by the hard-throwing right-hander Michael Joseph '13, who finished last season tied for the team lead in wins with three and an ERA of 4.70. Also returning is Tyler Buckingham '13, who started two games last season and posted an ERA of 4.41.

Baseball opens their season over their annual spring break trip, which will begin on March 24 with a game against Carthage. Looming at the end of that trip is the all-important series with Williams, which could have huge implications on the NESCAC playoff picture, despite being so early in the season.

"We made history last year by sweeping Williams in a three-game series for the first time ever in Arizona," said Wark. "This year we want to keep that streak alive and help bring this program to new levels."



SOFTBALL

2010/2011 RECORD
30-8

CAPTAINS
JESSA HOFFMAN '13, ALYSON DOWNING '12

Expectations are high for this year's softball team, who are coming off of their most successful season in history. 2011 saw the Panthers finish 30-8 and win their first ever NESCAC championship. In the process, they broke or tied 25 school records and made their inaugural appearance in the NCAA tournament. This year, Middlebury is hungry to continue their recent trend of success, though they will have to replace most of their production from last season.

"After graduating seven seniors from last year, we're a young team, but we have a lot of talent," said senior captain Aly Downing '12. "We finished up last season with a school program record of 30 wins, and we're really excited for this season, ready to take on one game at a time and continue the success of Middlebury softball."

Leading the Panthers into the 2012 campaign is shortstop Jessa Hoffman '13, who hit .354 with two home runs and 23 RBIs last season. Joining Hoffman in the Middlebury infield will be Emma Katz '13, who hit .284 last year with 11 RBIs.

Elizabeth Morris '14 will return to lead a Middlebury pitching staff that was tops in the NESCAC last year, posting an impressive team ERA of 1.31. Morris finished the season 11-2, with a team-leading ERA of just 1.16. Alexa Lesenskyj, who appeared in 10 games last season and allowed 1.43 runs per game, will also pitch for the Panthers.

Middlebury softball will open their 2012 season on March 24 in Claremont, Fla. against Union. Head coach Kelly Bever '99 leads the team in her sixth season at the helm with an overall record of 100-67. The captains for the team this year are Hoffman and catcher Alyson Downing '12. If this team is as successful this year as they were last year, then Middlebury softball could well be on their way to becoming the new power in the NESCAC.



GOLF

2010/2011 RECORD
N/A

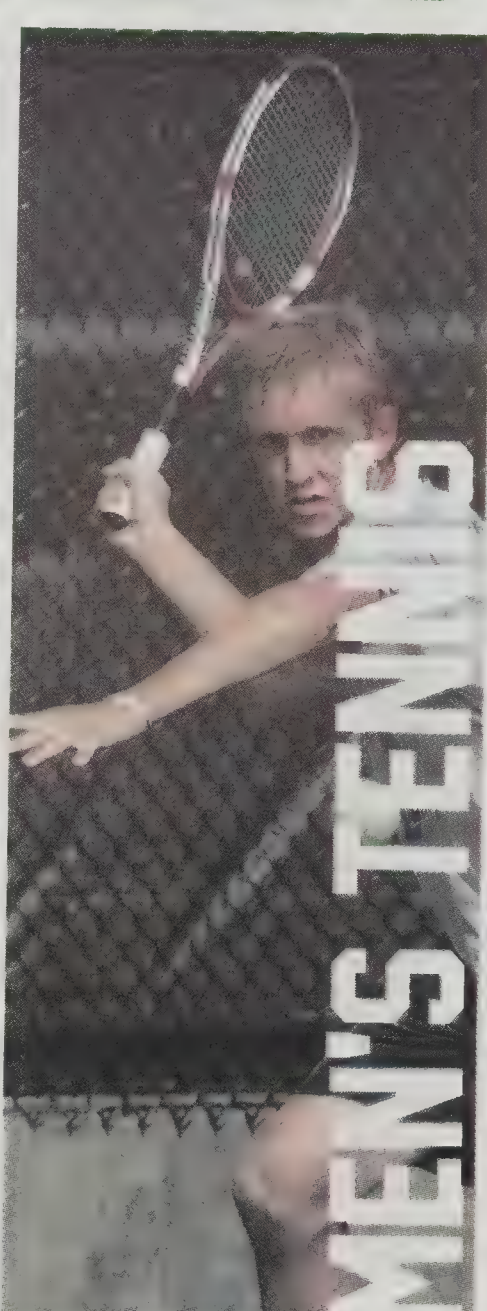
CAPTAINS
W FLORA WEEKS M N A

The men's and women's golf teams will begin their seasons after stopping play for the winter. The men will travel to Manhattanville while the women will travel to Vassar on April 14 to start off their spring seasons.

In the fall, the men ended the season with a second place finish in the Manhattanville /NYU classic. The six-man team ended with a score of 631, just nine strokes behind Manhattanville and eight behind Farmingdale State. Earlier in the season, three members of the team were awarded post-league honors: William Prince '13 was named to the All-NESCAC first-team while Robbie Donahoe '14 and Chris Atwood '14 were named to the All-NESCAC second-team. Only 16 golfers in the NESCAC league were named, seven to each team. Last year's spring season ended with a fourth NESCAC championship title for the team.

The women ended the fall season on a similarly high note, placing second in the Williams Fall Invitational. Flora Weeks '12 captured the individual title, earning medalist honors for the third time in the fall season. In team competition, the Panther women ended their season with a third place finish at the Williams Spring Invitational last May.

The women's side saw the graduation of top player Jessica Bluestein '11, but also welcomed in first years Jordan Glatt '15 and Michelle Peng '15 to the program. The men's side graduated two standout players: Brian Cady '11 and Jim Levins '11, both of whom were named to the Ping All-Regional Team last Spring. With the loss of these two players, the team has welcomed in four first-years to the team. Both teams will look to find the same success this season as they did last with their new players.



MEN'S TENNIS

2010/2011 RECORD
18-4

CAPTAINS
N/A

The Middlebury men's tennis team is slated to start its season this weekend at home, with matches against Hamilton, Brandeis and New York University on Saturday, March 10 and Bates on Sunday, March 11.

This year's roster consists of 15 players under the direction of coach Bob Hansen. The 2011 team graduated three seniors, including NESCAC Player of the Year Andrew Peters '11. They have been replaced by a trio of first years, Courtney Mountfield '15, Chris Frost '15 and Peter Heidrich '15.

After capturing the national title the year previously, last year's team was defeated by Emory in the NCAA Championship Quarterfinals.

This year's spring season will feature matches against perennial NESCAC rivals, but also several Southern California colleges over spring break. The NESCAC Championships will be held at Williams, starting on May 4 and the NCAA Championships are scheduled for May 21-26 in Cary, N.C.

"My expectations are that we will compete really hard," Hansen said in an interview. "I think we have a lot of really good players, phenomenal people. I'm very excited about the possibilities. There's no question we will be good. But the question is will we be great?"

"The coach is getting us pumped up," Frost said, "I think we'll do better than what other people think, the tennis blogs and the other teams."

Interestingly, the team employs an "everyone-is-a-captain" model where no player is specifically selected to carry the team.

"I think the model is working well," Hansen explained, "We want to have leadership up and down the line. [Leadership] comes in many forms and [the model] reflects that in a very nice way."

FEATURES

The Middlebury Campus

A preview of the
Jackson Katz lecture
next week.
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TASTE CHEESE WITH CHOPSTICKS



BY JIAYI ZHU

I can clearly show you a list of my best friends from elementary school to high school: Gigi from grade one to grade three, Candy from grade four to grade six, Piana at grade seven, Angel and Lilian from grade eight to grade nine, Anna from grade 10 to grade 11 and Trisha at grade 12. By best friend I mean we always ate lunch together, gossiped together and even went to the restroom together. If she was too close to someone else, I would be jealous, and if we ever had some snacks from home, we shared with each other. My best friends are like my family members.

Maybe it is because I've grown older, the rule of making friends changes in college. It is impossible for me to have lunch or dinner with the same person everyday now, because sometimes I don't even have the time to sit down and eat. Our schedules are so different and everyone seems to be so busy that a long brunch with friends on the weekend becomes something that I will be grateful for. Besides that, instead of having only one best friend, most of us have a lot of good friends: A is the friend I always go to the gym with, B is the friend I always watch movies with, C is the friend I always study with and D is the friend I always go to the party with. They are all close friends of mine, but no one will accompany me to the restroom at class breaks any more.

Since this is a small campus, everyone I bump into to looks somehow familiar. If I make eye contact with a random student on campus, we will automatically show each other a friendly smile. Yes, a friendly smile that keeps us in a secure distance. I cannot recall how many times a short conversation like "we should have dinner together at some point" and "yeah, we should definitely hang out" happens on my way to the library. At the beginning of my freshman year, I really expected that person to text me or post on my Facebook wall and tell me which dining hall to meet, but soon, I realized the conversation is just another way of saying hi here.

Once in my freshman year I sat with a bunch of my friends at the long table at Ross. We were having some interesting conversations, and I was laughing. I laughed so hard that when I stopped laughing, a sense of loneliness suddenly immersed me. I felt the polite distance among us. All the topics are so perfunctory that I did not know anyone as an individual better after the long dinner. I guess this is the reason that I prefer dinner with smaller size. It is more intimate and personal, and I know people better after the dinner.

I believe the time to socialize is limited, so I'd rather spend time with some close friends that I know are reliable and worthy. There are so many interesting students here with unbelievable life experience that I will actively reach out and make friends with. I constantly remind myself that I should ask people out to dinner if we promise that when saying hi. A friendly smile with distance should not be something to stop me from knowing someone better. And I am so glad that I have a bunch of close friends that I do not need to search for witty words with when staying with them. That we do not feel awkward when it is quiet and no one is speaking is my judging point of whether we are close friends or not.

Students forgo meat for Feb "Veguary"

By Ben Mansky

Any student in the dining hall last week most likely saw the signs or heard the buzz. Perhaps a friend brought a meal conspicuously absent of meat to the table, or he or she spotted a suspiciously large number of tofu dishes populating the plates of Proctor's patrons. For some students, it was time to correct the calendars; this past week was not February, nor March... it was Veguary.

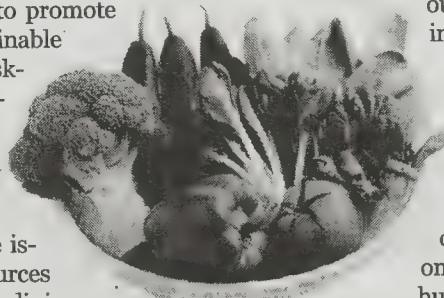
Eat Real, the student group behind LessMeat Mondays, devised the Veguary campaign in order to promote conscientious and sustainable eating practices. By asking students to go vegetarian, pescatarian or flexitarian (eating as little meat as possible) for the week, they hoped to raise awareness of the issues surrounding the sources of Middlebury College's dining hall meat. In order to effectively and efficiently serve the student body, over 99 percent of meat served in the dining halls comes from large factory farms. The majority of factory farms are tailored to the mass-production of meat, and do not adhere to the sustainable and environmentally friendly practices that might be more common at local farms.

"It's sad," said Olivia Case '15. "I just assumed that at least a good amount of our

meat was local."

After hearing about the Veguary program from a friend, Case thought she would pledge to be a flexitarian for a week. Once she did more research, she decided to go completely vegetarian.

"Before Veguary I thought I ate a pretty limited amount of meat, but now after participating in it, I realized that I was eating meat at almost every meal," said Case. "It made me more aware of how much more I could limit it, and how many [food items] our dining hall puts meat in."



Case said that, although she will not stay vegetarian after Veguary, she is thinking about going "humane-itarian," a diet composed of meat only from ethically and humanely raised animals.

Unfortunately, she added, this change would be next to impossible thanks to the factory-farm-sourced meat in our dining halls.

Not all Veguary participants were primarily concerned with meat sourcing itself. Sanela Smaka '15 became a vegetarian more than four years ago thanks to a campaign similar to Veguary. However this decision was generated for reasons unrelated to environmental consciousness.

"It was mostly for the health benefits that I originally became a vegetarian," Smaka said.

Smaka stressed the importance of considering the advantages in personal health alongside the environmental and humanitarian influences of eating conscientiously. While she does not condone the unethical treatment of animals, Smaka found the tangible upsides of vegetarianism to be more compelling than the idealist intangibles.

While few could argue the benefits of locally sourced and sustainable meat available for mass purchasing, the reality is less than ideal.

"It's not realistic to think that we could get all our meat locally, especially given the budget, and given the fact that we're a small college in a sparsely populated area," said Brigit Carlson '13.

According to dining hall staff, the College attempts to get as much locally sourced food as possible across the board — meats, produce and raw ingredients included. However, an increase in local purchasing could cause a rise in tuition due to higher prices.

Last week's Veguary campaign helped bring conscientious eating practices into the spotlight, but there is still quite a way to go until Middlebury becomes the completely sustainable institution that the Eat Real group hopes it will. Perhaps, until then, there will be more Veguaries to come.

Psych majors study student hook-up culture

By Alex Strott and Afi Yellow-Duke

Over the course of this past fall and winter, many Middlebury students may have noticed their emails being bombarded by surveys revolving around the topic of romantic relationships and hook up culture. In early November there was "Drugs, Sex, and \$50" sent out by the sociology/anthropology course, Survey Research. Over the next few months there were two more surveys sent out by seniors Ellen Dahlberg '12 and Sara Woodworth '12, entitled "Friends With Benefits and Romantic Relationships" and "Hookup Experiences," respectively. After receiving three different surveys on such similar topics, one cannot help but wonder: why this sudden interest in the sex lives of Middlebury students?

The answer may not be so simple. According to Dahlberg, one reason she chose to study friends-with-benefits relationships for her senior work is because research on this topic is low, occurring only within the last five to 10 years. She explains further that what little research has been done on this subject is not theory based; one of her attempts in her senior thesis is to ground the nature of friends-with-benefits relationships in theory by establishing how similar these types of relationships are to romantic relationships. Surveying Middlebury students, while not adequate for making generalizations, is "a good initial way to look," said Dahlberg. Her survey, which received approximately 890 responses from the student body, analyzes the cost-benefit situation of relationships, focusing on three bases of commitment: satisfaction, quality of alternatives, and investment size (what one stands to lose if the relationship ends). Approximately

80 percent of the students who responded to Dahlberg's survey had been or are currently involved in a friends-with-benefits relationship, and 50 percent are currently or were once in a romantic relationship. Dahlberg said that students do not mind talking about these issues and being honest about them in an online, anonymous environment, which is another advantage to the survey method.

"The research interest in issues around sexuality and relationships among psychology students has been pretty consistent over the last decade, as has the interest among academic psychologists," said Professor of Psychology Susan Baldrige, adviser to both Dahlberg and Woodworth. "[M]ore recently the literature has begun to consider the ways in which hooking up may in some cases be a context for young adults to explore and initiate romantic relationships."

According to Baldrige, the majority of the discussion concerning hooking up has revolved around the issue of public health — "focusing on concerns about sexually transmitted diseases and negative emotional consequences for those involved." However, surveys like those that were conducted this year have the potential to make new and lasting contributions to the existing literature.

Steven Dunmire '13, a member of the Survey Research course from the fall of 2011, agreed with Dahlberg's last point, but does not consider these recent surveys to necessarily be a novel idea.

"I think the interest has probably always been there," said Dunmire of the sudden curiosity in our sex lives. "It's just becoming more of a public issue." According to Dunmire, students have become more accustomed over the years to an-

swering such surveys as they have become more frequent. The issues that these surveys bring to the table have always been on our minds. Now, they are simply becoming more common in the public sphere of life.

The survey that Dunmire's class distributed was written entirely by the class, with half focusing on the section concerning drugs and the other on the section about sex. Dunmire said that the survey method worked well for the group's purposes, since it allowed them reach as many people as possible, and nearly half the student body responded. Dunmire's group, which focused on the half of the sex-related portion of the survey, wanted to learn more about dating, intimacy and relationships and how each of these subjects might differ among different identity groups. Looking back on his experience, Dunmire said that it would have been nice to be able to conduct interviews to supplement the surveys, but with the constraint of time, the survey on its own is the next best option.

Clearly, there are a variety of reasons why surveys are a useful option for gathering honest information from a wide spectrum of students. There may also be a variety of reasons why these surveys have had such an obvious focus on the sex lives of Middlebury students. For some, it may be because they are treading into waters that have not been explored much before this point, as in the case of Dahlberg's senior work. For others, it may be because they want to bring light to an issue that has long been both discreet and omnipresent in people's minds, as in the case of Dunmire's sociology/anthropology course. Either way, surveys like these call attention to the mysterious nature of the behind-the-scenes lives of Middlebury students.

WINNERS LOSERS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

They're awesome and the fans love it. Good times.

BUYING TICKETS

We're not used to planning our evenings more than one hour in advance ...

50 DEGREES

Shedding those puffs like it is NOBODY's business.

50 DEGREES

Sludge. Unpredictability. Climate change.

BUTTERNUT

YES! Our favorite type of squash ravioli!

CANDELIGHT

Suddenly, dinner is way too intimate.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: HEIDI GRASSWICK

By Joe Flaherty

Professor of Philosophy Heidi Grasswick gets one of two reactions when she tells someone she is a philosopher.

"It's either, 'Oh, that's really cool, I had a class when I was an undergrad and I just loved it!' Or I get, 'Oh ... yeah, I had a philosophy class and I just hated it,'" Grasswick said. "My next question for them is, 'Did you have a good philosophy professor or not?'"

Grasswick cited stellar professors as one reason she became interested in philosophy as a student.

"When I was an undergrad I did a philosophy honors degree, but I sort of picked around and only ended up in philosophy mostly because I had really great professors," Grasswick said.

Hailing from the west coast of Canada, Grasswick earned her B.A. at the University of Victoria and then completed an M.A. at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Grasswick went on to earn her Ph.D. in Philosophy at the University of Minnesota.

When considering job offers after her Ph.D., Grasswick was unfamiliar with the concept of a liberal arts college.

"Coming from Canada, there's no private liberal arts tradition," said Grasswick. "All the schools are public, pretty much. Basically the whole idea of how you decide where you go to school is how far away from home you want to live. There's just not the disparity in terms of cost or quality."

It was the emphasis on teaching that won Grasswick over on Middlebury.

"I didn't really know much about what it was going to be like except I knew they cared about teaching and that was important to me," she said.

Grasswick's courses include Philosophy and Feminism, Feminist Epistemologies and Theory of Knowledge. She described how her specialty is "at the bridge of epistemology and ethics."

"I'm interested in how we can be responsible 'knowers' — how do we decide who we should believe or what scientific communities we should believe?" she said.

Putting philosophical theories into a real-world context is critical to Grasswick's work. While working on her Masters, Grasswick was introduced to feminist political theory.

"I knew I liked philosophy but I wasn't sure if it was that important to connect with the world," she said. "However, once I found the link through being interested in social justice and the idea that philosophical ideas actually matter to the practices that evolve in our society, then I became interested in the connections."

Grasswick is going on sabbatical next year to work on a book that studies relations of trust between scientific communities and lay communities, or non-experts.

"I'm interested in thinking through how do we do science well in a way that can build relations of trust," Grasswick said. "It's a fact that we have to depend on scientists, so thinking from a social justice point of view, are certain people disadvantaged with respect to knowledge, meaning they can't access the knowledge unless they trust the experts?"

One of her case studies will focus on the science of climate change and how we can best negotiate the politics behind it. Grasswick also hopes to cover in her book the social justice of climate change in terms of how it affects different groups around the world.

The philosophy of science is also a part of Grasswick's contributions to the philosophy department.

"I teach a course, Science and Society, and I think that's an incredibly important course to be teaching at a place like Middlebury because that's where you can really be thinking about the relationship between science, which we all depend on, and what it means for our personal lives," Grasswick said. "Is science objective? How is it objective? What does it mean to say that it's objective?"

Teaching this course at a liberal arts college is a plus for Grasswick, who says that she enjoys having different types of students in the class.

"It's an interesting class because you get students from the sciences who haven't had the opportunity yet to be thinking critically about what science means — they're busy doing the science," Grasswick said. "It's a moment where they can think about what it means to be doing science and what gives science validity and what role does science play in our society."

She said it does not matter whether students are focused on the humanities or

the sciences because it is an opportunity to introduce students to philosophical ideas they would not have encountered otherwise.

According to Grasswick, there are advantages post-graduation to being a philosophy major.

"All disciplines are concerned with critical thinking, but in philosophy we really focus on it," said Grasswick. "That's why a lot of employers like philosophers, if they know what philosophy's about, because they recognize that they are people who can problem-solve and think through complex issues."

In spite of the potential to learn problem-solving skills, Grasswick offers a word of caution to aspiring philosophers.

"It also means you see more problems than you want to see sometimes," said Grasswick. "That's the disadvantage."



Jiayi Zhu

Professor of Philosophy Heidi Grasswick takes advantage of Middlebury's liberal arts setting to teach innovative courses such as Science and Society.

GLOBE MED UPDATE

JOANNE WU
GlobeMed member

In a country where a multitude of choice is more often the issue than a lack thereof, it is quite easy to forget the presence of malnutrition and the part it plays in many of the health crises unseen to us today. Widely discussed topics regarding health often center on the more well-known and publicized issues such as those surrounding AIDS and Malaria, while, as *Medical News Today* stated in a recent article, issues such as malnutrition put the same if not greater number of young children at risk for lower life expectancy and damage to their development.

It is undeniably hard to wrap your head around the startling facts that surround the case of child malnutrition: Save the Children — an organization dedicated to helping children retain their rights to food, survival, protection and intellectual as well as emotional development — recently published a report recording 300 deaths per hour caused by the lack of sustainable food sources, adding up to 7,200 deaths per day and more than 2.5 million lives a year. While only one third of that number results from malnutrition itself, the state of malnutrition leads often to a weakened immune system and thus a higher possibility of contracting diseases like diarrhea, pneumonia and malaria, which account for the other two-thirds of deaths associated with malnutrition.

Yet while malnutrition accounts for such a high number of child deaths around the world, especially in the cases of developing nations, members of the developed countries' communities know surprisingly little about the current state of affairs surrounding malnutrition. As the article pointed out, very little has been done in the course of 20 years to address the lack of resources dedicated to malnutrition, even though research has shown that improvements in nutrition can cause up to a 46 percent increase in adult productivity within its work force. Subsequently, the lack of improvements in nutrition have led to an annual loss of two to three percent of the GDP in developing nations, widening the gap between developing and developed countries and making it more difficult for developing countries to establish their position alongside their developed peers in the global arena.

The situation is slowly being remedied, however, and as the G8 meeting grows near, more efforts are being made to address the issue of nutritional inequality in developing countries. The World Bank estimated around \$10 billion in costs to resolve 90 percent of the malnutrition prevalent in the developing world, a meager amount compared to the bills spent on increasing productivity. Save the Children has been pushing for the G8 to prolong the span of time in which subsidies will be allocated to the development of sustainable nutrition. And perhaps this transition is what is needed from this global platform to make a change.

Kiss&TELL



BY RACHEL LIDDELL

I have a secret: I am obsessed with sex. I think about it in bed, in the shower, while I'm running, during class ... All of the time. After I make a sexually charged comment, most of my friends groan "typical" under their breaths. My mother feels the need to caution me to avoid the topic when speaking to my grandmother. This public omission of my fervor flushes my face and flips my stomach. I feel exposed and vulnerable admitting such a deep, dirty secret. Taking a step back, however, I remember that this attribute, my obsession with carnality, unites me with every human, regardless of age, race, gender, religion or nationality. A young girl marvels at the Barbie's rock-hard, polymer bosom and Ken's suspiciously smooth crotch. An early pubescent boy watches as his female peers discover miniskirts and sits helplessly distracted as they "forget" to cross their legs. Two teenagers, in the throes of first love, battle with the inherent conflict between a glut of desire and a dearth of

skill. Women fight for their right to show their beauty and control their bodies. People work to redefine the meaning of love and offer it to everyone, regardless of sexual orientation. Religious leaders struggle to decide how birth control, homosexuality and sexual education fit into traditional teachings. The very source of human life is sex: the fateful combination of intercourse and orgasm.

Our inability to discuss sex effectively, however, limits its power. I remember sitting in Human Biology, during the eighth grade, watching my peers blush at the mention of vaginal anatomy. My teacher dutifully used the scientifically correct terminology and, as a result, limited my peers' and my knowledge of common lingo. We faced each other, my teacher staring into our empty eyes, wondering how she could reach us, while we gazed back and tried to fathom why she wouldn't just describe proper technique for a good hand job. The generational gap gaped between us, and created two insular bubbles of futile discourse. Our disinterest in the science of sex and her refusal to discuss dirty details left us all cold and alone.

At the time, the situation felt irreparably impossible to rectify. In retrospect, I know that a common ground existed between us, a fertile land rich with possibility. If our teacher had discussed the pleasures of orgasm, or proclaimed masturbation normal, we would have listened. Sex is fun. It's part of growing up. Knowledge and self-confidence

optimize the opportunity presented by sexuality. In order to tap into this resource, we need to communicate. Sex, the ultimate uniter, provides the perfect medium for conversation, as long as we can hit the happy spot of shared knowledge. My eighth grade class needed some cold, hard facts about going hot and heavy, but we needed them packaged for the horny, 13-year-old mind. We needed sexy factoids and titillating tidbits, with some common sense about condom use thrown in. Similarly, speaking about sex with my grandmother needs to be a conversation about love, about family, about feeling myself completed by another person. By adjusting how we communicate, we can use sex to connect with anyone and everyone. The language of sex is universal.

I hope that this column can communicate effectively to you, you college students of Middlebury, Vt. As a part of your whole, I hope I can offer anecdotes, fun facts, historical context and the occasional nugget of wisdom. I want this column to promote discussion, incite arguments and force its readers to reconsider their ideas. It will include discussions of gender, sex tips, nuanced analyses of Disney movies, comical narratives and at least one installment devoted to my feelings about pubic hair. I hope that by reading my column, you will feel more comfortable, entertained, and intrigued by your sexuality. Through open discourse, we can harness the power of sex, and maybe incite a little intercourse along the way.

Jackson Katz to lecture next week on sexual abuse

By Ali Andrews

Next Monday, March 12 at 8 p.m., the author and activist Jackson Katz will speak in Mead Chapel about the role of masculinity in gender violence. An easy assumption to make at Middlebury College is that Katz will be talking to us about injustices that happen outside of our community — that we at Middlebury do not have the problem of gender violence. However, the same students who organized Katz's visit, Luke Brown '13.5 and Margo Cramer '12, also started the website go/ItHappensHere — a place for Middlebury students to anonymously submit stories of sexual assault or violence — to uncover the often unhappy reality at Middlebury. Jackson Katz and the students behind It Happens Here are ready to get us talking about it.

Katz is the author of a number of publications, the most famous of which is his book *The Macho Paradox: Why Some Men Hurt Women And How All Men Can Help*, which is also the title of his talk. He has additionally produced a number of documentaries about masculinity and gender issues such as *Tough Guise: Violence, Media and the Crisis in Masculinity* and *Wrestling with Manhood*. He designed the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) Program used across the country to train student athletes to take an active role in gender issues.

In the preface to *The Macho Paradox*, Katz describes his induction into the gender studies movement as the time when "the lightbulb first went on when [he] was a 19-year-old college student." He was a successful student, an athlete and a journalist at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. "I was living in a co-ed dorm and my peers were living completely differently," he wrote. "In other words, ordering their lives around the threat of sexual violence. It really struck me as profoundly unfair. It was a moment when my consciousness began to expand."

There were a few incidents of rape on his campus, which triggered a movement for better lighting and other general safety measures for women.

"I remember covering that actually. I was a journalist myself for the student newspaper. So I was upfront and close to that discussion of freedom and safety and sexual violence. Early on, those were important events in my growing consciousness."

This moment was part of his gradual

realization that the position he held in society had particular advantages while his female counterparts experienced marked disadvantages.

"I very quickly learned that as a man, I was in a position to do something about all of this."

"My initial motivations for getting involved in women's studies and such — it wasn't altruistic," said Katz. "I was trying to figure out how to be happy. How to better integrate what I wanted out of life and what I was doing."

In his articles, books, videos, speeches and workshops, Katz presents remarkable yet depressing statistics on sexual assault and violence. *The Macho Paradox* offers some chilling numbers from various sources: 20 percent of girls were sexually or physically abused by a date; an estimated 17.7 million women in the U.S. are victims of rape or attempted rape; almost 50 percent of women with mental retardation have been sexually assaulted at least 10 times.

"Hearing these statistics can be eye-opening and very upsetting," said Brown, "but it's easy for the sympathy to stop there."

Brown said that it often takes a personal incident to make the reality of sexual assault and domestic violence hit home. For him, it was when a friend at Middlebury was raped. In supporting

"I very quickly learned that as a man, I was in a position to do something about all of this."

JACKSON KATZ

ACTIVIST, EDUCATOR, AUTHOR AND FILMMAKER

his friend, he learned more about the difficulties that surround speaking out and the subsequent judicial process.

"Something made it personal to me, so I became involved," said Brown.

For Cramer it was experiences prior to reaching Middlebury that have stayed with her; Jackson Katz gave a talk at her high school and the whole school read *The Macho Paradox*, from which she got the idea to bring him to Middlebury. Cramer is one of six students majoring in women's and gender studies, as the *Campus* reported last week.

Motivated by these personal experiences, Cramer and Brown served on the Sexual Assault Oversight Committee last year. During the summer, Brown in-

terned for the Addison County Council Against Sexual Assault. Despite the accomplishments of these organizations, Brown and Cramer were looking for a better way to reach the student body and Jackson Katz had a message they wanted the campus to hear.

In order to get enough money to bring Katz to campus, Cramer had to pitch the idea to the athletic department, the health center, Chellis House and the administration, which all contributed funds. In addition, the Addison County Council Against Domestic and Sexual Violence got a grant from Verizon to contribute, making the lecture supported by both town and college.

Along with bringing Jackson Katz to campus, Cramer and Brown and about 30 other students who meet weekly in the Chellis House, conceived of the website they called It Happens Here (IHH).

"The idea behind It Happens Here is to get a dialogue going on campus about a range of experiences with sexual assault, harassment, violence," said Cramer.

They accept stories anonymously online in any form — poem, journal entry, scribbled story — from victims, perpetrators, witnesses to anyone involved in gender violence on campus or elsewhere. The guidelines are not particularly stringent because they want to acknowledge the spectrum of experiences and players.

"We hope people will include a location with their story because what we're trying to do is make these stories personal to people. If you live in the Chateau and hear of someone who was assaulted in your dorm, that will have a particular impact, a much stronger impact," said Brown.

So far they've received six submissions. "We're really happy to have six stories before starting our advertising push. In the next couple of weeks we plan to display a few of our initial submissions to provide examples for those thinking of contributing."

On April 23, at 7:30 p.m. in McCullough Social Space, Brown, Cramer and the rest of their group will read the submissions received on IHH.

"We believe that a rehearsed performance of someone else's story would risk the chance of straying from the author's original message. Instead, we plan on picking stories at random and simply reading them, unrehearsed, to the crowd."

In the future, they hope to compile a video of recordings of the submissions to be played for incoming first-year or other groups on campus.

"We don't want the impact of the project to end here," said Brown.

The IHH website will provide something concrete by which to see more clearly how the statistics Katz presents are manifested at Middlebury. These could counteract whatever feeling students might have of being an exception to the rule of gender violence statistics.

"When it comes to men's violence against women, it's always the other who is committing the violence. It's not us," said Katz. "In the case of Middlebury, it might be articulated as 'Middlebury is a special place. It's self-selecting. It's high



JACKSONKATZ.COM

Jackson Katz, one of America's foremost anti-sexist male activist will speak to students about sexual abuse March 12.

achieving. It has more socially progressive people. This is not really a problem for us." He explained that this discourse is heard everywhere and not just about sexual violence.

When asked how he approaches communities or individuals that may not believe gender violence is their problem, Katz gave compelling reasons for how these acts grow out of a broader cultural context that enables them.

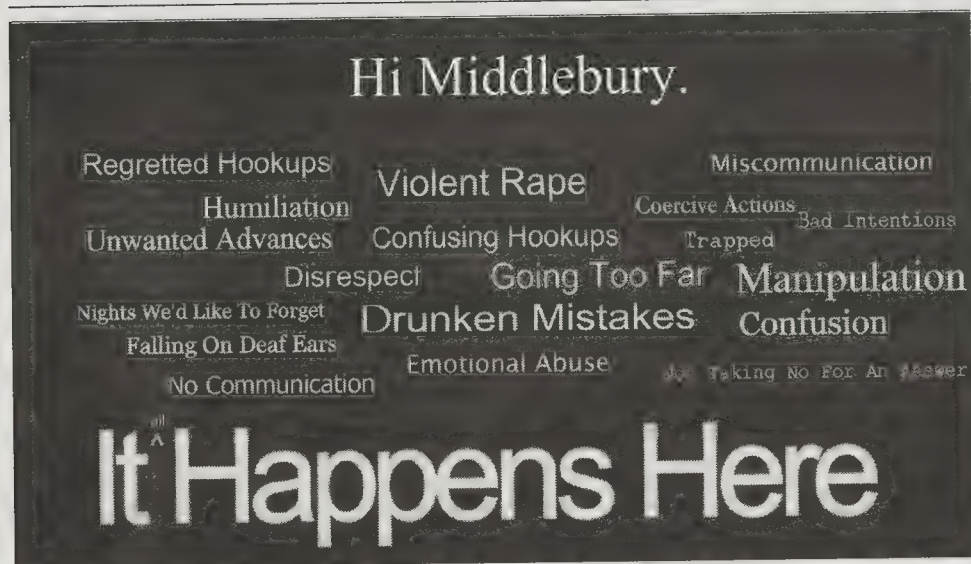
"We talk about a whole continuum of behaviors. If you think about a pyramid as a metaphor, the tip of the pyramid is the sexual assault incident or the domestic violence incident. But at the base of the pyramid is a foundation of attitudes beliefs and behaviors that build a climate and a culture that support that tip of the pyramid."

He explained that whether or not someone, or some community, is involved in acts at the tip of the pyramid, they are a part of the culture that builds the base of the pyramid and therefore have the power to change it.

Moreover, he pointed out that even if gender violence did not happen at Middlebury — which statistically it does, he argues — half the world's population faces gender inequalities.

"Issues of sexual violence and domestic violence are worldwide problems in every culture. They're extremely important sad realities in human societies that contribute to the maintenance of unequal social and political power structures all over the world. So if you want Middlebury students to be prepared to be citizens of the world, which is one of the things Middlebury students aspire to, right? Middlebury as an institution is renowned for internationalist sensibility in engaging with the world, right? Well, students need to understand about sexual violence as world issues."

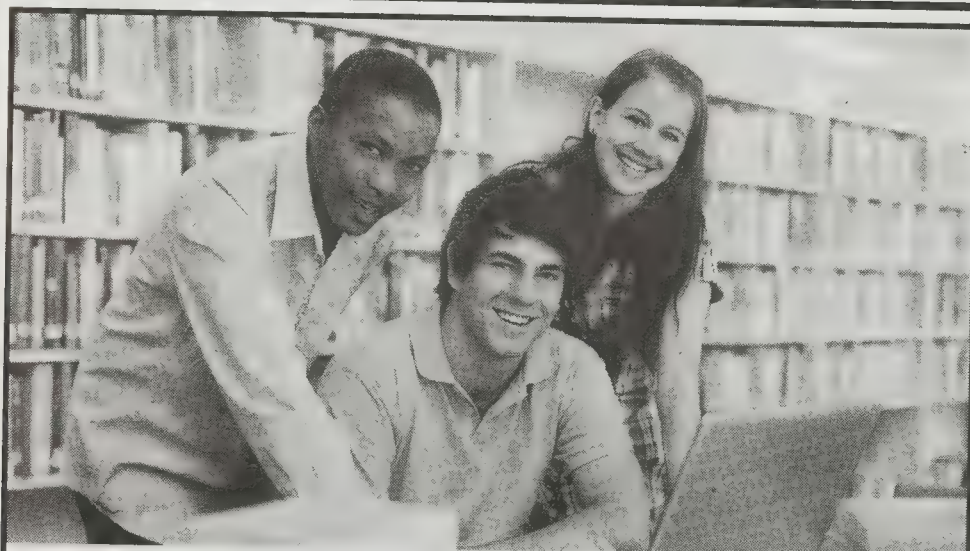
At the close of his interview, Brown read out one of the six stories already submitted through IHH. The anonymous author recounted with clarity, honesty and disturbing elegance her rape. Through IHH and next week's talk, Katz, Cramer and Brown are creating opportunities for Middlebury students to exercise their capacity to articulate, listen and internalize these stories.



COURTESY

Middle students are encouraged to share their stories at the site go/ItHappensHere.

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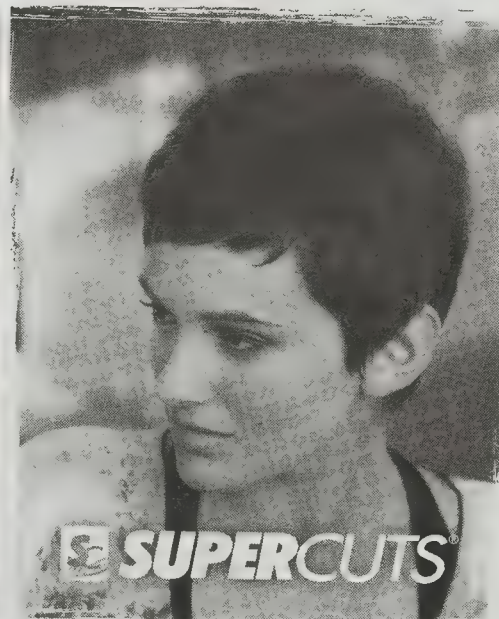
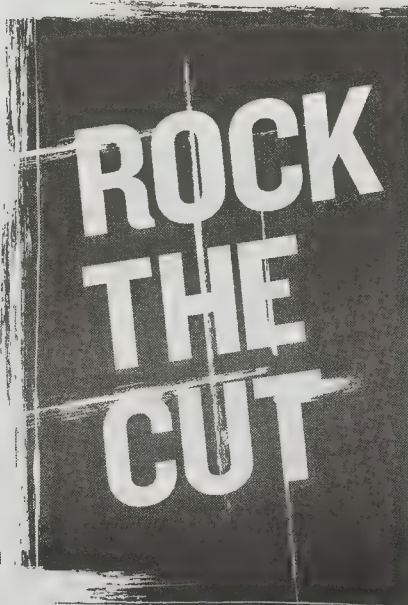
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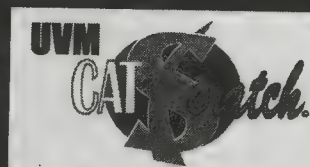
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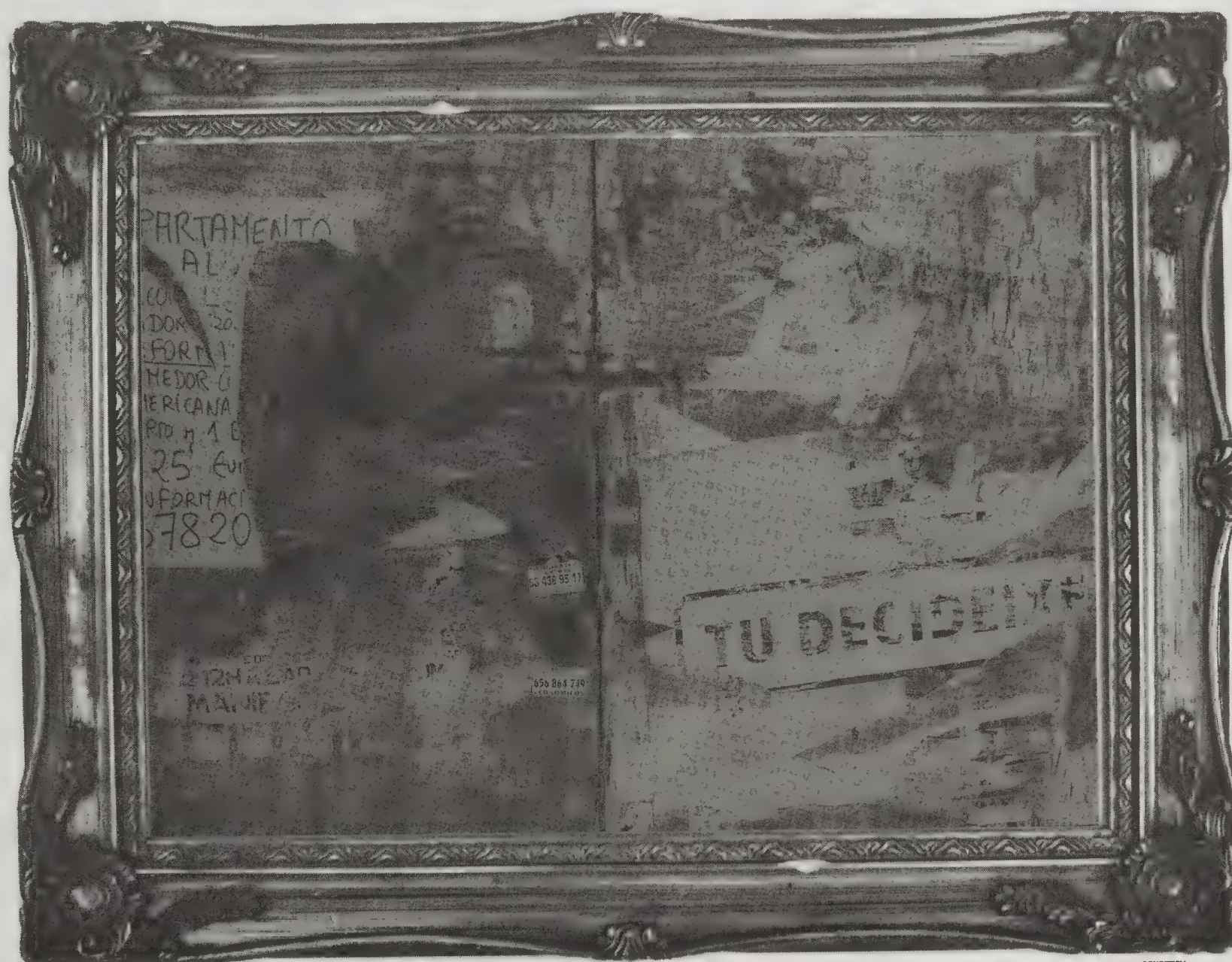
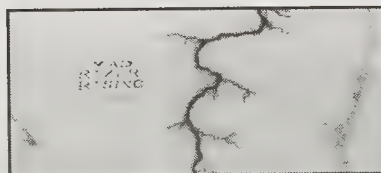
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COURTESY

SPECTACULAR PORTRAITS OF SPAIN: ETHAN MANN'S "IBERIA"

By Alexandra Kennedy

Ethan Mann '12 presents compelling and profoundly reflective photographs and paintings in his exhibition "Iberia," which opened on the evening of Friday, March 2, at the M Gallery. Addressing a full house of College students and faculty, Mann recalled the initial inspiration for his collection, the city of Barcelona, and the way in which he "was taken with the colors, the graffiti" that cover the sidewalls of the city's medieval buildings. With stunning results, Mann captures the grittiness of the spray-painted scrawling and partially torn posters on display in the heart of Barcelona through photography, and pairs these realistic representations of life in one of Spain's most beloved cities with more fantastical renderings of an almost mythic vision of the entire country in surrealist paintings.

Before the start of his semester abroad in Mexico, Mann, a Spanish major, hoped to reinforce his language skills by spending the summer of 2010 in Barcelona interning for the marketing department of a pharmaceutical company. The job was "better than it sounds," Mann said with a laugh, though a busy work schedule and a long commute proved taxing. Mann admitted that, "I was living weekend to weekend."

These few days off from work provided Mann with both an opportunity to see more of Barcelona, and also, incidentally, the inspiration for a photo series. Mann recalls his first time meandering through Barcelona's winding streets, in which he was lost for five or six hours. Stopping down a back alley near the Plaça Reial, Mann observed someone putting up a poster, and "was struck by how the wall littered with ripped posters, stickers and spray paint, became a sort of incidental public art, with countless authors." Mann's fascination with these layers of visual stories with many anonymous artists as their

authors led to a photo project.

"I thought it was kind of special so I started taking pictures of it," he said.

Mann wonders "if the Barcelonans or tourists realize how striking their alleys and walls look," or if "it goes right by them," but in capturing the walls through photography, Mann reveals an amalgam of messages and artistic representations of the city's cultural, social and political life. In particular, Mann found himself intrigued by the mixture of political slogans with "completely absurdist" sayings and images. For instance, one photo depicts a wall that displays a worn sticker which reads the Catalan phrase: *TU DECIDEIXES*, translating to "you decide," the name of a campaign to increase social and political involvement among the Catalan citizenry. Compare such charged political slogans with more absurdist art, like the famous Chupa Chups lollipop logo recreated in spray-paint as saying *Chupa Sangre*, ("Suck Blood"), or the phrase *la televisión es mentira* ("television is a lie") scribbled on another wall, and we begin to understand the different forces, both political and absurdist, driving divergent artistic energies in the city. Through stills that encapsulate these graffiti, Mann helps us to better understand the multi-faceted life pulsing through such a vibrant and charming city.

A year after his first journey to the Iberian Peninsula, Mann took yet another trip back, leading a group of high school students on a visit through the central and southern parts of Spain in the blazing heat of summer, which could reach anywhere up to "118 degrees Fahrenheit during the day," Mann said. Delirious from the heat and exhausted from long days on little sleep, Mann experienced what he described as "Kafka-y" dreams that perhaps influenced him to paint in a more abstract manner. Indeed, Mann's paintings are surrealist explorations of Spain at the juncture of expectation, reality and

fantasy. While still at home before embarking on his second trip through the sun-drenched plains of central Spain and the scorching region of Andalusia, Mann began to paint a scene of a man underneath a Moorish arch strongly reminiscent of those inside of Córdoba's famed cathedral, La Mezquita. The painting, *Untitled (Mezquita Arch)*, would become a personal favorite of Mann's. What started out as a representation of "what I would want things to feel like in Spain," Mann said, ended up establishing themes that echo in the rest of the paintings on view. Depicting solitary figures under the arches for which Spanish architecture is famous, often against the backdrop of rich, sapphire night skies illuminated by striking crescent moons, Mann's surrealist paintings are simple in style, "like a memory that has become a new thing" through more abstract re-imaging. Perhaps these lonely subjects can even represent Spain itself: as Mann noted, since Spain finds itself "between Africa and Europe, it's kind of on its own [at these] cultural crossroads."

When asked by a gallery visitor what these subjects standing in the threshold perhaps saw on the other side that arrested them underneath the arches, Mann replied, "standing there is the point. Maybe it's not about what's on the other side. There's uncertainty there, and I like that idea."

Mann said of his experience taking in the sights of Barcelona and throughout Spain: "I try to make sure I don't overlook anything interesting or beautiful right under my nose." In producing this impressive body of work overall, Mann has certainly achieved this end, and we would certainly be hard pressed as viewers to overlook the real, palpable beauty of Mann's artwork.

"Iberia: Paintings and Photography by Ethan Mann" is on view at the M Gallery at #3 Mill Street in downtown Middlebury until March 12.

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Sophie Shao returns with a program featuring the works of Beethoven, Kirchner and Franck, accompanied by Lithuanian pianist Ieva Jokubaviciute. Tickets: \$25/20/6.

3/9 8 P.M., CENTER FOR THE ARTS, CONCERT HALL

Screening of *Biutiful*

Biutiful is the story of Uxbal, a single father who struggles to reconcile fatherhood, love, spirituality, crime, guilt and mortality amid the dangerous underworld of modern Barcelona, all before his time is up.

3/10, 3 AND 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

Shinsai: Theaters for Japan

An afternoon of staged readings presented by the Theatre Program and Potomac Theatre Project, performed on the one-year anniversary of the devastating earthquake that struck Japan. Free.

3/11, 2 P.M., CENTER FOR THE ARTS, DANCE THEATRE

Novice animators produce film, "Mad River Rising"

By Deirdre Sackett

Over the course of four weeks, nine students with little to no experience in animation came together to produce their first-ever animated feature based on Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre Dana Yeaton's full-length play, "Mad River Rising." Miles Abadilla '11.5, Krista Duke '15, Marcella Houghton '13, Norah Jones '12, Dylan Redford '14, Graciela Sarabia '13, David Seamans '13, Sam Tolzmann '14 and Dan Whateley '12 worked to create the 12-minute film in the Winter Term course Hand Drawn Animation, which was taught by Visiting Lecturer in Film & Media Culture Daniel Houghton. The film was accompanied by music by Anais Mitchell and Michael Chorney.

Pre-production, such as scripting and storyboarding, was finished by the time the course began in Winter Term. The class met for four hours a day, four days a week, and for the first two days, the students essentially learned how to animate. This entailed doing simple studies of balls rolling and bouncing. After that, the fresh animators were thrown in the deep end.

"[Houghton's] approach of learning by doing is something I wish we had more of at Middlebury," said Seamans, one of the student animators. "We took that approach to the extreme in this class. We didn't wonder whether we could animate, or how to animate, or what theories we can learn. We just animated. Experience was definitely the best teacher in this case. I can't imagine a more rewarding way to structure a class."

The class met 16 hours a week in the basement of Axinn, and was largely consumed by production time, such as drawing each individual frame of animation. In addition to the four-hour class period, animators would come in after hours and spend their nights working in the studio.

Tolzmann, another animator, said, "I found it easiest to come in on Fridays (our weekday off) and spend six to eight hours in studio so that I only had to spend a couple hours there on Sunday and had the rest of the weekend free."

This immense time commitment lent itself to the fact that the animation was entirely hand-drawn. Computer programs such as AfterEffects were used to combine several images into one, so that different artists could compile different elements into one scene, or to create the effect of snow or rain.

"There was no 3D animation or 'cheating' with the computer programs," said Tolzmann. "We drew the whole film, and the programs were simply the medium by which we compiled the hundreds of drawings into a cohesive piece."

Tolzmann also noted that the collaborative nature of the film helped give it a rich cohesive feel, with different animators contributing his or her own unique drawing styles to the animation.

"We each had our own strengths,

weaknesses, preferences and style," said Tolzmann. "Each artist 'owned' certain images, so while the final film features many artists' work, there is still a feeling of consistency. The old man, for example, always looks the same, because he was drawn by one artist, Krista. Similarly, the swallows are consistent because Marcella drew all of them, and so on."

Houghton confirmed the importance of the team dynamic. "If we were down just one person, I'm not sure we would have been able to finish the project," he said. "Take away Dylan and there is no barn. Without Sam, no old woman knitting, no mittens. Norah — no cats, no snow. Without Krista and Marcella there would be no farmer, no birds. Lose Graciela and all of our landscapes are gone. Lose Miles and David and there goes the flood. I suppose it still might have worked out, but it's hard to imagine."

Thankfully for the animators, this removed a lot of pressure from the process. Each drawing was a contribution toward the animation itself, and not to one's self-gain as an artist.

Even so, the course was rife with hardship.

"I pushed them rather hard," said Houghton, "and there was nothing about the project that was easy. They had to learn everything on their own. The project was just too big for me to be there often in the role of teacher. Mostly the film was their teacher. It sat there exclaiming day after day, 'I'm not finished yet. I'm not even close.' The final 36 hours we went straight through from 8:30 a.m. Wednesday morning till 4 p.m. the following day."

Seamans agreed that "the hardest part of the class was that final night around four in the morning when I grabbed yet another stack of paper for yet another flowing water animation."

"Actually, looking back, I would say that the all-nighter was the highlight of this J-term class for me," said Duke, another animator. "That might sound kind of funny, especially considering we probably looked like zombies afterwards — we were so dead tired! But I remember everyone getting pumped up before the 'final stretch.' We slapped each other high-fives and went right to work, starting sometime around 8 a.m.. Each of us had something to finish, and with the deadline approaching, we could feel the pressure. I remember around 7 p.m. I never wanted to see or hold another pencil in my life. But the pizza and the chocolate-covered espresso beans, as well as the encouragement from the other students, helped me get through."

The animators were certainly not alone in their struggles, and Houghton, Yeaton, Chorney and Mitchell all provided support as well. And finally, on the evening of the screening, they were able to view their finished film with the knowledge that their project was complete.

"I watch it and see every drawing I



COURTESY

Nine animators hand-drew each frame for "Mad River Rising." The film was screened on March 1, and told the story of an elderly man's return to his ruined childhood home.

made during all those hours in the basement; I can point out every one, and everyone else in the class could do the same," said Tolzmann.

Seamans echoed this sentiment. "The highlight of the class was definitely seeing the final result at the screening last week," he said. "The final result is something we're all proud of, and the positive response [from the audience] was exhilarating."

Before the screening, the animators had never seen the film in its entirety.

"I was surprised at the emotional impact, which I had never grasped because I'd never seen it all the way through," said Tolzmann. "I had no idea it would be so poignant! And it also looked beautiful! If I do say so myself."

Tolzmann also noted that the impact of the film was much greater after a few weeks apart from the Winter Term experience: "If I'd watched it right at the end of Winter Term all the way through, I wouldn't have responded to it as a film, but as something I'd worked on. Time apart allowed me to see its merits as a film, independent from my own contribution to it and knowledge of its creation."

Seamans noted that, while he is un-

certain about pursuing animation in the future, he will apply the skills he learned in the class toward the graphic novel he is working on, "and [the class] will certainly change how I look at animated films for the rest of my life."

Duke shared Seaman's viewpoint: "I'm not sure if there is any animation in my future. However, the lessons of teamwork and perseverance that I learned will remain with me wherever I go."

Houghton had nothing but praise for the combined efforts of Chorney, Mitchell, Yeaton and the animators. He summarized the animators' hard work and dedication as a commentary on the student body's work ethic.

"As far as I know, the scope of this film was larger than any film they had worked on before, so I can only imagine that every student experienced some degree of pain as they confronted this massive ocean of work for the first time," he said. "Who knows, though. Maybe they thought it was easy. I taught a course somewhat like this five years ago and the feedback I got was, 'Expect more of us. We are ready for more.' And it's true. You can't say that everywhere, but Middlebury students are ready for a lot."

FOR THE RECORD

BY ZACH BLAIR

In the beginning, Sleigh Bells created *Treats*. Then Derek Miller said, "Let there be another album with deafening guitars and exploding drums," and it was so. And he said, "Let there be a firmament of production value to divide the old album from the new," and he saw that it was good. And Alexis Krauss said, "Let there be meaningful lyrics and my ever-so-darling voice to have dominion over the sea of loud," and she too saw that it was good.

Lo, the genesis of *Reign of Terror*, the sophomore album of Brooklyn-based noise-pop duo, Sleigh Bells. Any fan of the group's debut, *Treats*, will instantly recognize the same basic formula: Miller's face-melting guitar riffs and machine gun-inspired drum machines contrast with Krauss's enchanting melodies and sugary vocals. The idea borders on the gimmicky, but the production is so deftly handled

that it's actually quite charming.

But a carbon copy of *Treats*, though fun, would have sounded stale and worn out. So the band beefed up its lo-fi sound and traded in abrasive squeals and hip-hop beats for a sexier, less jagged approach, relying, if this is possible, even more heavily on guitar riffs and arena rock. To ensure maximum guitar-ness, Sleigh Bells uses a simple strategy: better production means more sonic space, and more space means more room for layered riffs and harmonies. It's how they sustain such a huge sound over an entire album.

Centerpieces "Comeback Kid" and "Demons," for example, form a continuous adrenaline rush over the course of six eardrum-bursting minutes, and with its bleacher-stomping beat, crunchy guitars

and cheerleader-esque backing vocals, and "Crush" sounds like it was made for the "Smells Like Teen Spirit" video. But some of *Reign of Terror*'s highlights are its slower, more emotional songs. "End of the Line" is the perfect mix of emotions (ar-

SLEIGH BELLS *Reign of Terror*



peggiated guitar, breathy vocals and desperate lyrics) and rock

(crashing cymbals, thick distortion and rapid-fire snare rolls). Similarly, "You Lost Me," the dark, metal lullaby with a hook to die for, holds the more mellow second half of the album together in a graceful, churning

pool of distortion. And thus, despite these successes, *Reign of Terror* never quite lives up to its predecessor. *Treats* stretched simple pop songs into extreme party anthems and dexterously combined hip-hop beats with metal riffs

and teen-pop vocals. In subtracting the abrasive guitar screeches and high-octane drum patterns of their debut, the duo also ditched the exciting experimentalism that went along with their new sound. They still rely heavily on guitars and sheer volume, but they've lost the jarring chords and hip-hop beats that made *Treats* such a success.

This isn't to say that *Reign of Terror* isn't a pleasure to listen to. As I've said, I really enjoy the mellower songs. In fact, each track here is a bulletproof pop song, and I admire Sleigh Bells' willingness to venture into slower songs and ballads. But without the brazen atonality of *Treats*, these noise-pop gods just sound too neat.

And thus, Miller and Krauss created their second LP. And when, on the seventh day, they beheld their work, they saw that it was very good. Very good, but not quite great.

SPOTLIGHT ON: FYRE SQUAD

By Ben Mansky

Last year, Andy "Singz" Singley '13 and Nolan "Killa T" Thompson '13 decided to start a band. As time went on, the band grew, and a distinct hip-hop style grew with it.

Now, Fyre Squad has seven members, seven singles up on YouTube and a definite presence on campus. In addition to Singley and Thompson, the band features the talents of Osaze "Oz" Riley '14, Joe "Breezy" Ortiz '14, Ola "Big O" Fadairo '15, Frédéric "French Toast" Camara '14 and Evan "E Miles" Auguste '14.

The music of Fyre Squad is undeniably hip-hop with its strong beats and intelligent raps, but each song integrates varied styles and influences.

"It's an amalgam of sorts," said Fadairo. According to Fadairo, because the band's members come from various parts of the country, they each have different tastes and musical inspirations. He cites up-and-coming rapper and songwriter Kendrick Lamar as a personal influence,

while other members draw ideas from the work of artists such as Drake and Lupe Fiasco. The combination of these diverse styles mixed with each member's individual take on the music results in a memorable, nuanced and artful interpretation of hip-hop that is becoming harder and harder to find.

As a fairly new band on campus, Fyre Squad has been quick in establishing itself. By making good use of Facebook for publicity purposes, the band has used the social media platform to build hype for events, gain support and post links to each new single just after being released.

With over 100 "likes" in a matter of months, word is certainly spreading. Just last month, they played a party at KDR — one of their first public events on campus — and there are sure to be more to come. Keep your eyes and ears peeled, because you will definitely be seeing more of Fyre Squad in the next few months. In the meantime, check out their Facebook page and see for yourself what all the hype is about.



COURTESY

Fyre Squad is an up-and-coming hip-hop band that performed at KDR in February.

Student ecology project builds allergy risk models

By Ben Anderson

Sam Safran '12 understands how annoying allergies can be. Safran is a joint biology-environmental studies major from upstate New York. During the summer of 2011, he spent his time off from Middlebury driving around New England collecting data for his Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU).

Safran was working with the Harvard Research Forest in Petersham, Mass. The project on which he was working involved creating allergy risk models for the United States. Safran's side of the project had him traveling between Massachusetts, New York and Vermont collecting data on the distribution of ragweed.

Ragweed, a flowering plant of the genus *Ambrosia*, is an annual common to much of the continental United States. The plant pollinates in mid-August; approximately 36 million Americans suffer from ragweed allergies, and an estimated 3.8 million work and school days are missed each year because of hay fever from the plant, making it the greatest pollen allergen in North America.

Safran was conducting what is known as a presence/absence survey. Three test areas were chosen and random test points were generated within each region. Each region stretched from an urban area out to more rural areas. In Massachusetts, test points stretched from Boston to the Berkshires, in New York from New York City to the Catskill Mountains and in Vermont from Burlington to the White Mountains.

"Just as an example of how random the sites were," Safran said, "one of the points was the main runway of LaGuardia Airport. I didn't even ask them if I could walk out there with my measuring tape, I ended up relocating it to a parking lot nearby ... While I was up in Vermont I had a guy shoot at me with his

shotgun, trying to scare me off his property. Maybe he was shooting at a bird, I'm still not sure."

Once he had all of the data, Safran used Google Earth to show the geographic distribution of the plant. Then, he used an algorithm that he designed using 23 environmental predictor variable to extrapolate predictions for more widespread distribution of ragweed throughout New England. The computer used two geographic resolutions, one every kilometer and another every 30 meters. Safran wasn't surprised to find that his verification surveys proved that the thirty meter resolution was much more accurate. This data is the first step in designing the allergy models. Once he has sent his data back to Harvard, researchers there will use his models as well as data collected from pollen traps to build a more comprehensive allergy risk model.

This project has consumed much of Safran's work in the past year. As well as the work with Harvard, Safran has been using the data in his own research.

However, he is far from the end of the project. Next, he hopes to change the validation methods he used in hopes of tweaking the models. He is taking a cartography class this semester and plans to use what he learns there to design better maps of his ragweed distribution data. Also, Safran can use predicted climate scenarios to model how the distribution of ragweed may change in the future. Ragweed abundance is expected to increase in warmer conditions and pollen production has been shown to increase (and some believe to become more potent) when raised in elevated CO₂ conditions. It was this that led Safran to study ragweed, just another problem arising from the rapidly changing climate.

"One great thing I learned from all of



COURTESY

Sam Safran '12 conducted a presence/absence survey during the summer of 2011.

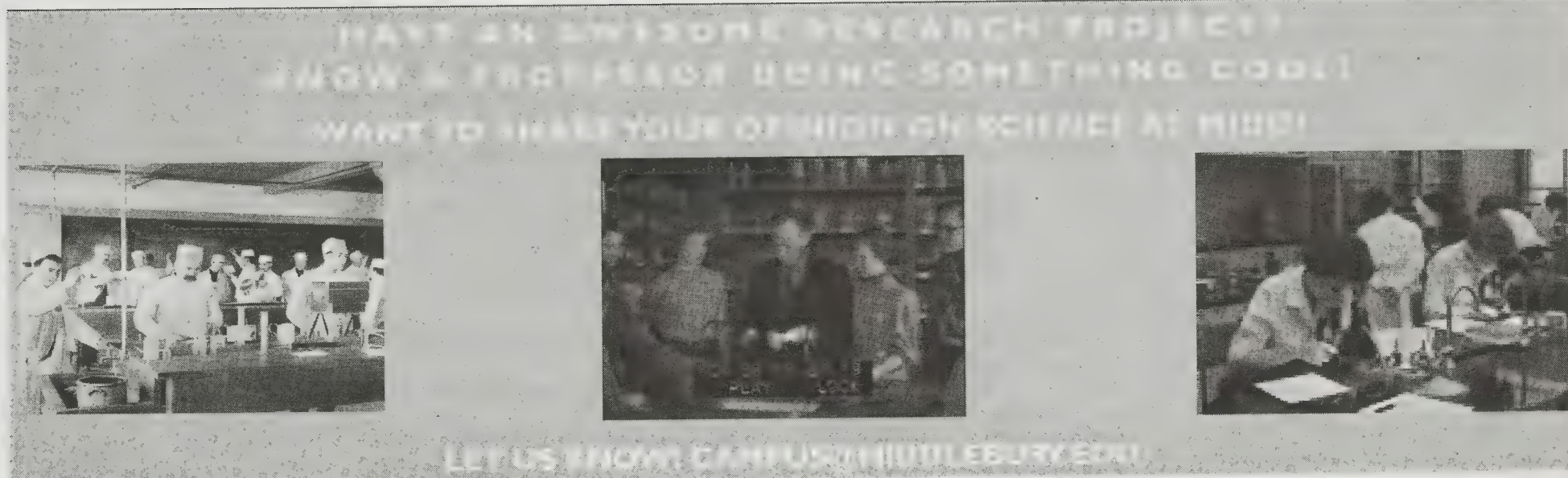
this," he said, "is it's amazing how much you can do with free and open source software and almost no money."

The data collection was done with nothing more than Safran's car and some measuring tape. To design the algorithm that helped him model ragweed distribution, Safran used R, a programming language available for free download. Finalized with open source GIS software and Google Earth to display the models, Safran's project was completed without the use of expensive software often featured in such research.

Safran's experience also highlights the value of REUs. These research opportunities are affiliated with many major research universities, connecting undergrads — especially

students at liberal arts colleges like Middlebury — with top-tier researchers around the country. These programs can help science undergrads in any field further their scientific career, providing the research experience often sought for by most graduate programs.

Middlebury isn't a large research school. There are no science graduate programs and we are lucky enough that the professors in BiHall don't let their own research distract them from being dedicated teachers. However, as Safran's independent work shows, our students can still leave the College with research experience and the necessity of independent initiative in pursuing such research illustrates the brightness and tenacity of Middlebury students.



EDITORS' PICKS

Who will win by a larger margin in their season opener, men's or women's lacrosse?

Who will win Middlebury's other sectional matchup, Eastern Connecticut or Cabrini?

Will women's hockey continue their trend of scoring four goals against Plattsburgh?

Will Peter Lynch '13 have more points or rebounds in basketball's game against Scranton?



OWEN TEACH (12-9, .571)



DAMON HATHEWAY (42-34, .553)



DILLON HUPP (101-87, .537)



KATIE SIEGNER (75-87, .463)



ALEX EDEL (57-67, .460)

MEN'S

The Panthers put up 14 goals on the Bobcats last season, and I expect a similar offensive showing on Sat.

CABRINI

This side has put up two big wins in its first two NCAA games. Also a strategic pick to counter Damon.

NO

Defense always prevails in playoff hockey, as evidenced by a 1-0 NESCAC title. I see 2-1 Panthers.

POINTS

Lynch has a +16 in this category through 2 NCAA games.

MEN'S

Bates is a historically tough opener for the women's team. Both teams come away with wins, though.

*** EAST CONN**

Don't buy the Cabrini hype, they're overrated ... God, I hope I'm not eating my words Saturday night.

NO

With a spot in the Frozen Four on the line both teams will play strong defense.

POINTS

Lynch's rebounding totals eclipsed his scoring total just twice this season.

MEN'S

Dillon forgot his editor's picks due to a prior conflict. He was helping elect the new mayor of Burlington.

CABRINI

Dillon hopes (retroactively) that you voted for Miro Weinberger. He won anyway.

YES

Dillon hopes you voted YES for Miro Weinberger. He still won.

POINTS

Miro Weinberger, thanks to Dillon, also got more points than rebounds.

MEN'S

I was inspired by Henry Clark's quotes in the preview.

CABRINI

For a basketball writer, announcer and general super-fan, Damon sure gets a lot of these questions wrong.

NO

If my choices are four goals or any other number, I like my odds. Nice question, Dillon. #record-padding

POINTS

Scoring wins championships.

MEN'S

Bates is a harder opponent for the women ... but frankly I haven't done my research on spring sports yet.

EAST CONN

Damon follows Div. III basketball like no one else I know. So I hope he got that right!

NO

Plattsburgh is a hard opponent. I foresee a win but I think it will be a low scoring game.

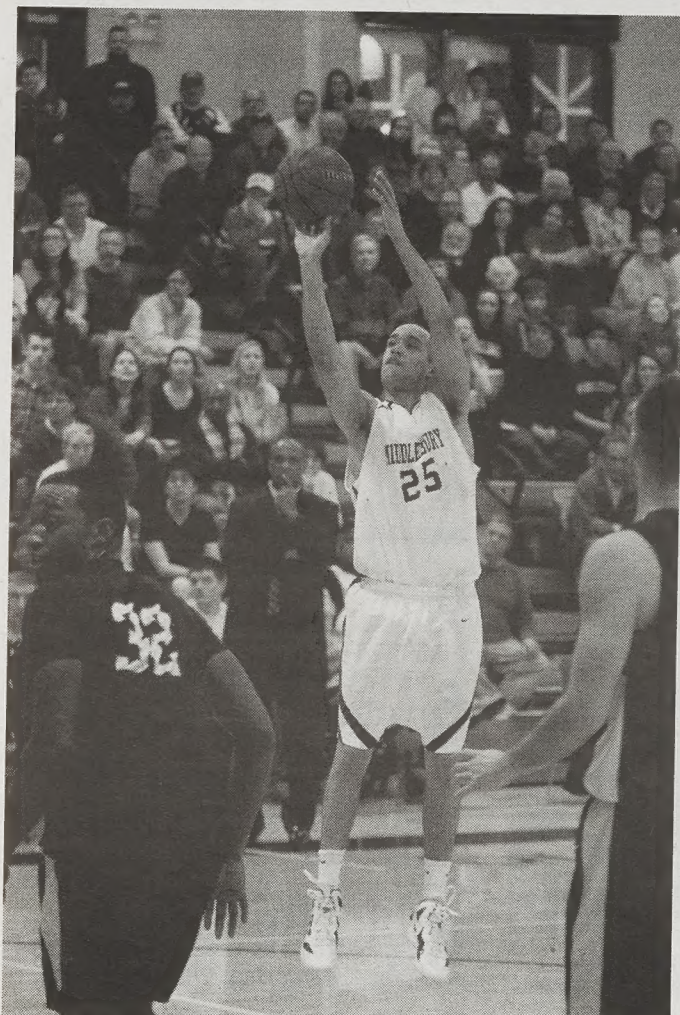
POINTS

From the games I have seen he seems much more of a shooter than a rebounder #igotogames.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW POORYGULA

Clockwise from upper left: Fans and teammates look on during Middlebury's matchup against Morrisville on Friday, March 2 as Jack Roberts '14 waits for a rebound; Ryan Sharry '12 snags the ball from a Morrisville player; Nolan Thompson '13 attempts a three-pointer; and head coach Jeff Brown looks on intently as his team edges closer to a victory. The Panthers won 75-49 against the New York team, and 89-73 against Albertus Magnus the following night. They advance to the Sweet 16 this weekend.



Track and field obliterate records at ECAC Champs

By Owen Teach

As the indoor season winds down for the Middlebury men's and women's track teams, the action is just coming to a head. The Panthers competed in the ECAC Championships this past weekend at the New York City Armory with their sights on the NCAA D3 Indoor Championships approaching this coming weekend. In the midst of record-setting campaigns by both sides, Jack Davies '13 described the importance of this past weekend's races.

"The men were excited to head down to New York and get one more race in on a fast, banked track," said Davies. "With the new NCAA system, where there is no guarantee of making nationals until the very end of the season, we knew that everybody else across the country would be aiming to run fast this weekend, and that it would be important that we also compete at that level."

Women's star mile-runner Margo Cramer '12 echoed his comments.

"The team was focused on both improving qualifying times and hitting personal records this weekend," said Cramer. "It was a tune-up for the women

who have already qualified for the NCAA meet and an opportunity to race, jump or vault with great competition at a stellar facility. I think most people racing were more concerned on giving their best performance of the season than making the record book."

The ECAC races at the Armory this past weekend included some fast times,

with Peter Hetzler '14 setting a new school record in the 400m (49.22), Kevin Chu '14 setting the record in the 60m hurdles (8.40) and the 4x200m relay team of Jason Jan '12, Hetzler, Fritz Parker '15 and Bryan Holtzman '14 also setting a school record (1:30.02). On the women's side four women set new school records — Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 in the 800m (2:11.70), Cramer in the mile (4:51.28), Mia Martinez '12 in the 60m hurdles (9.08) and Danielle Baker '13 in the pole vault (10'11.75). Lottie Hedden '14 also smashed a personal best in the mile with a time of 5:11.11 in the final heat.

Davies and Cramer have paced the team by consistently setting new records this season, both in the DMR and in individual mile races. Both of them commented on their successes up to this point

"That strength and speed, along with the confidence and trust we have in each other and our prior experience at NCAAs will help us on Friday."

**MARGO CRAMER '12
WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD**

Panthers host NCAA Sectional Rounds

CONTINUED FROM 24

Wolfen and Kizel combined for 11 assists and Middlebury recorded 20 helpers as a team, while turning the ball over just 11 times.

Sharry, meanwhile, found ways other than scoring to impact the game. The brawn of Braintree, Mass., had 12 boards, three assists and three blocks to bolster a modest nine points from the floor.

"[Sharry] is such an unselfish player that it opened up opportunities for other guys either to penetrate or sink some shots," Brown said. "Ryan is very willing to pass the ball, he doesn't care about stats — he just lets the game come to him."

Following the first round win over an undersized Morrisville State team, the hosts faced a more formidable foe in 28-1 Albertus Magnus — a team riding a 23-game winning streak and whose GNAC Championship season included wins over four different NCAA Tournament teams.

The Falcons jumped out to an early 7-0 lead behind four points from center Jefferson Lora and a three-point basket from Ray Askew. The Panthers appeared to be caught on their heels in the early-going, squandering their first five offensive possessions with three missed shots and two turnovers.

"We've been starting slow a bunch of games," Sharry said. "We can't be doing that. We can't keep putting ourselves in holes like that."

Following a timeout, Jeff Brown's team responded with a 11-0 run, highlighted by seven Sharry points. The Panthers' All American started the run with a jump shot, tied the game with a three from straightaway and then finished the run with a thunderous dunk that brought the raucous Kenyon Arena crowd to its feet.

"Some of my teammates were giving me crap this past week," Sharry joked. "They were saying they didn't know if I could dunk anymore so I had to make sure I shut them up."

Albertus Magnus kept the Panthers in check for the next eight minutes of play, cutting Middlebury's lead to 21-20 with consecutive baskets from Askew, who entered the game averaging more than 24

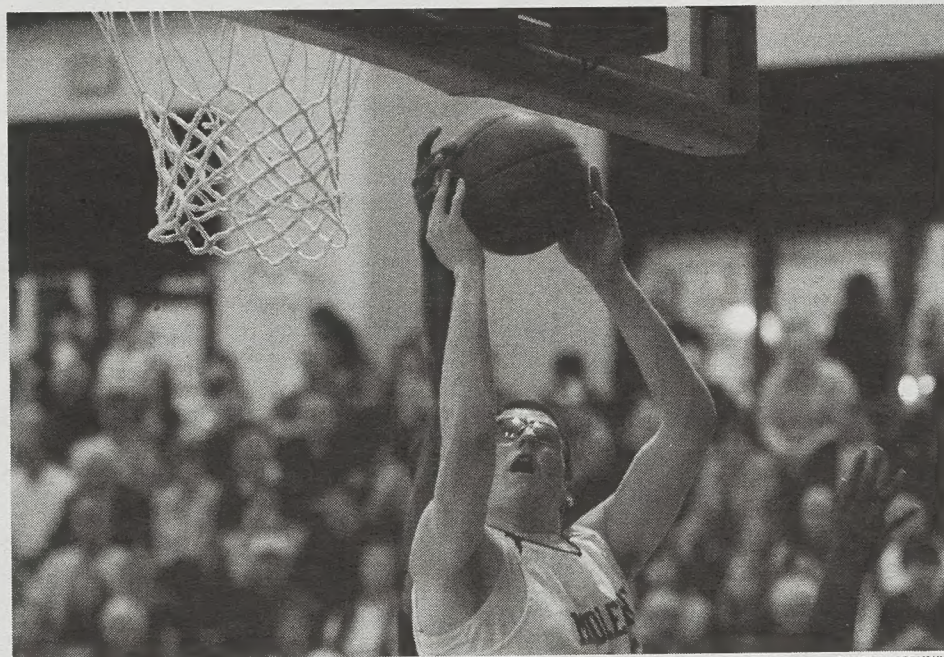
points per game.

The Panthers' second run put them ahead for good, however, as Sharry and first-year forward Dylan Sinnickson '15 combined for 13 of the team's final 17 points of the half to take a 38-26 lead at the intermission. Sinnickson had all seven of his points during the run, which featured another rim-rocking dunk from Sharry.

Defensively, Middlebury throttled Albertus Magnus in the first half, holding the Falcons to 27 percent shooting and 26 points total — their second lowest first half output of the season.

In the second half the Panthers extended their lead over the first 10 minutes, taking the game's largest lead at the 9:11 mark, when a layup from Nolan Thompson made the score 69-47.

James Jensen '14 and Nate Bulluck '14 provided a spark off the bench for Jeff Brown, combining for 13 second half points and playing stellar defense on the Falcons' two top scorers, Askew and wingman Darius Watson. The Panthers' bench starred throughout the game, limiting Askew and Watson to just 13 made field goals on 38 attempts.



Ryan Sharry '12 had 21 points and 15 rebounds in Middlebury's 89-73 win over Albertus Magnus on March 3. Sharry is a finalist for the National Player of the Year.

in the year, and on the coming challenge of NCAAs this weekend.

"After coming so close to making NCAA's last winter, the men's DMR team came into this season sharper and hungrier," said Davies about his relay team. "We have a lot of respect for the teams we'll be racing this weekend; it's undoubtedly the best DMR field ever assembled. But we're also excited, because we know that we can compete with anybody in the country."

"I would say that all four of our DMR legs (1200, 400, 800 and 1600m) are arguably stronger head-to-head than four legs of any other DMR in the D3 nation,"

said Cramer. "That strength and speed, along with the confidence and trust we have in each other and our prior experience at NCAA championships will help us on Friday. Look for fast times."

As the teams prepare for NCAAs this weekend at Grinnell, we can expect the list of indoor school records to grow.

The Panthers will send a total of eight athletes competing in four events. The aforementioned men's and women's DMR teams will look to sweep the event, while Michael Schmidt will compete in the men's 5000m and Cramer will try to cement her status as D3's top women's mile runner.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Amherst	4-3^L	The men's hockey team was thwarted by the Lord Jeffs in their quest for a ninth NESCAC title.
WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Colby	1-0^W	The girls captured their second consecutive conference title with a dominating defensive performance.
MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Wesleyan	89-73^W	The Panthers stormed into the Sweet 16, taking the Falcons down at Pepin Gymnasium.
VCU MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Drexel	59-56^W	One of the two championship week games Dillon watched in the newspaper office Monday night.
ST MARY'S BASKETBALL vs. Gonzaga	78-74^W	The other championship week game Dillon watched. This one was better.

BY THE NUMB3RS

7	The number of NESCAC championships won by the women's hockey team, including its victory last weekend over Amherst.
4	The number of consecutive goals scored by Amherst in its NESCAC championship win over men's hockey last weekend.
66	The total number of assists for the men's basketball team in its wins over Morrisville St. and Albertus Magnus in the first two rounds of the NCAA Tourney.
5	The number of Middlebury skiers honored by the EISA for the 2011-12 season.
0	The number of losses in conference play for the University of Kentucky men's basketball team during the 2011-12 season.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING	CHANGE	TEAM
		Damon's Deliberations
1+1		MEN'S BASKETBALL They're two wins away from returning to Salem.
2-1		WOMEN'S HOCKEY Phenomenal win over Amherst in NESCAC Title.
3+1		MEN'S HOCKEY The team did a great job turning its season around.
4+1		SKIING Five all EISA skiers. And the Coach of the Year.
5		SQUASH Middlebury was well-represented at Nationals.
6		TRACK AND FIELD The records (and times) just keep falling.
7+1		SPORTS EDITORS What? It's a REALLY slow week for Midd sports, ok?
8		SPRING SPORTS Time for warm weather for the spring athletes. And me.

Women will host Plattsburgh in NCAA quarterfinals on March 10

CONTINUED FROM 24

A penalty with 28 seconds remaining gave the Panthers an opportunity for a power play goal, but the Lord Jeffs, whose penalty kill unit had been stellar throughout the game, thwarted the home team once again. Then, with less than a minute remaining Erin Babineau had the final attempt of regulation for Amherst, but Jones stopped the puck and the game was forced into overtime.

Riding the momentum from Jones's save, the Panthers rallied for the sudden-death overtime, looking for a goal to end a game that seemed to repel any ideas of a score for either team.

"Going into the OT period after such a back-and-forth game, we knew all that was left now was one goal," said Greer. "Annabelle [Jones's] huge save at the end of regulation was a great momentum boost for us."

Sullivan almost scored 3:20 in, but Murphy was there once again to block the shot. On the night Murphy made 24 saves

and was stellar for the tournament's second-seeded team.

The game-winner finally arrived just under three minutes later when Greer's shot, which was partially saved by Murphy, slid into the goal. Murphy appeared to make the save on Greer's long-range attempt, but as players skated by the net with the puck in it and the red light signaled a goal to the fans, both the players and the Kenyon Arena faithful erupted.

"The moment we won the NESCAC championship is among the happiest moments of my life," said Jones who made all 16 saves en route to her third shutout of the season. "That is a moment that I've imagined since deciding to play for Middlebury, and seeing it come to fruition was incredible."

In addition to the conference title, the win earned the Panthers an automatic bid

for the upcoming NCAA tournament as well as a NESCAC player of the week distinction for Greer. Middlebury will gear up next for an NCAA quarterfinal match-up against Plattsburgh State on Saturday at

"Going into the OT period after such a back and forth game, we knew all that was left now was one goal."

LAUREN GREER '13

FORWARD

"We've played them twice this season, but this is the time that counts."

A win this weekend would put the Panthers in the Frozen Four and one step closer to their first national championship since 2006.

7:00 p.m. at Kenyon Arena. The Panthers and the Cardinals have faced off twice already this season, with the Panthers winning the first game 4-1 in decisive fashion in November at Plattsburgh before the Cardinals returned to Kenyon Arena and battled to a 4-4 tie less than a month ago.

"They are another rival, and another skilled team," said Greer of Plattsburgh.

Men's hockey falls just short of NCAA berth

CONTINUED FROM 24

Middlebury's first goal came 3:21 into the game as Ordway's shot made it past NESCAC Player of the Year Jonathan La Rose on his blocking side. The Panthers became the first team in seven games to score on Amherst in the first period.

The visitors then took advantage of a power play 9:40 into the period as the team patiently passed back and forth before Strauss was able to shoot the puck past La Rose.

The Lord Jeffs did not let the Panthers' 2-0 lead phase them and came firing back 15:01 into the period, scoring their first goal of the game on a power play after Michael Longo '14 was sent to the penalty box for holding.

The Panthers held a 14-9 shot advantage over the Lord Jeffs in the first period and outshot their opponents in each period.

After two first period goals, the Panthers were stymied in the second frame as La Rose was able to block all nine shots on goal from the Panthers in the period.

The Lord Jeffs, meanwhile, had more luck finding the net, scoring three times over the course of the period, to garner a two-goal lead heading into the third period.

The Panthers put up a strong fight to tie up the game in the third period against the NESCAC's top-seeded team, scoring on a power play 11:15 into the period. After failing to score on power play earlier in the period, the Panthers took advantage of their second opportunity as Strauss earned his second goal of the game off of a rebound, pulling his team within a goal of the Lord Jeffs.

The Panthers continued to pepper La Rose with shots, appearing twice to have tied the game.

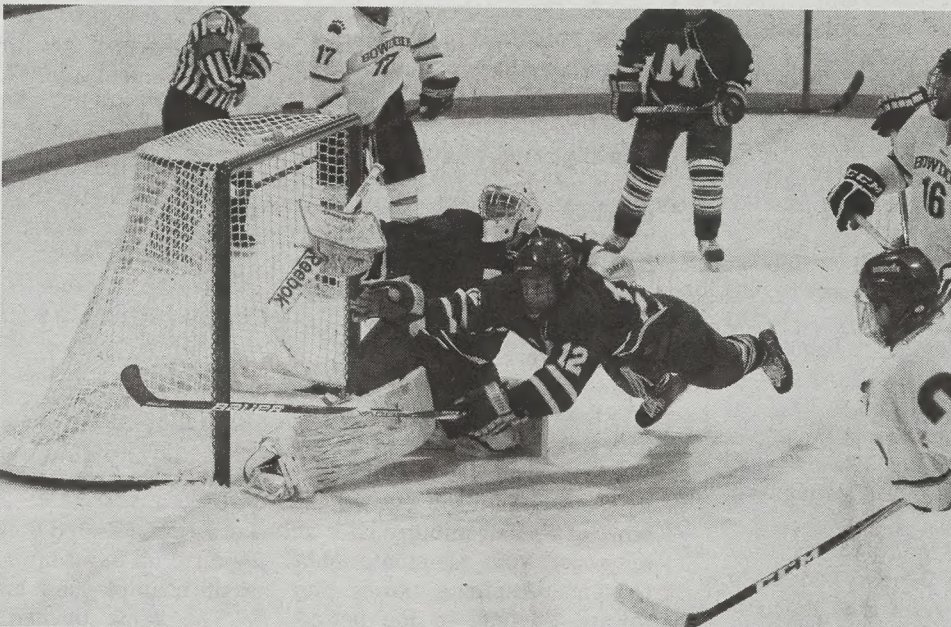
With 1:39 remaining, the team pulled Fullam, and appeared on the verge of tying the game when Chris Steele '13 shot into

what had seemed to be an open net, but La Rose was able to make a glove save to keep the Lord Jeffs one-goal lead.

And then the Panthers scored. Appearing to have finally drawn even, the team was dismayed when the apparent game-tying goal was waved due to a high stick violation.

Fullam was pulled from the goal again with 32 seconds to go, but Middlebury was unable to score a last-second equalizer.

The Panthers held the shooting advantage throughout the game, finishing the game with 36 shots on target to Amherst's 22. Unfortunately this advantage did not translate to the scoreboard as La Rose, who was named both NESCAC Player of the Week and Player of the Year, made 33 saves in the game, en route to his 18th win of the season.



Both goalie Dan Fullam '15 and tri-captain Tom Cantwell '12 stretch outright to stop a shot from a Bowdoin forward in the Panthers' 6-3 win over the Polar Bears.

COURTESY: JEFF PATTERSON

SPORTS BRIEFS: SKIING AND SQUASH HONORED

By Katie Siegner

SEVERAL PANTHER SKIERS NAMED TO ALL-EAST TEAMS

The strong Middlebury skiing program received significant recognition as the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association (EISA) made its All-East selections on March 5. Senior nordic skier Patrick Johnson '12 was named to the first team and is currently top-ranked in the region in both the free and classic Nordic races. Johnson is the most prominent success story of the season for the men's nordic team, sweeping the free and classic events at the past two carnivals and finishing first in six of 11 races. Teammate Ben Lustgarten '14 earned second-team honors, and nordic coach Andrew Gardner was named Coach

of the Year after his sixth year with the team. Continuing the nordic accolades, first-year Annie Pokorny '15 was recognized as women's Nordic Rookie of the Year after turning in five top-10 finishes in nine races. The Alpine team was well-represented by Andrew McNealus '13 and Hig Roberts '14, both named to the second team.

SQUASH PLAYERS COMPETE AT INDIVIDUAL NATIONALS

Last weekend, March 2-3, with team competition over for the season, four squash players traveled to represent the Panthers at Individual Nationals, held at Amherst. Two players on the men's team, Valentin Quan '12 and Jay Dolan '13, and two for the women, Elena Laird '12 and Abby Jenkins '14, competed in the 64-person bracket.

Laird proved the strength of the Middlebury women's program by advancing to the quarterfinals. She started her run with a bye in the first round, before winning each of her next two matches in three and four games, respectively. Despite losing in the round of eight, Laird can count herself among the top 10 best players in the nation. Teammate Abby Jenkins also drew a bye, but fell in her first match in the round of 32. Quan and Dolan both fell in the round of 32 in close five-game matches, the former after defeating his first-round opponent and the latter after advancing on a bye. Middlebury squash can consider itself well represented at the elite college level after successful seasons by both the men's and women's sides this winter.

MIDDLEBURY'S BEST TEAM?

An argument could be made that the women's hockey team is the best team on campus. The issue is, the argument wouldn't get very far as very few people have seen them play.

Sunday, March 4, the nation's third-ranked team squeezed past Amherst in the NESCAC title game 1-0 in what was one of the most thrilling games that I have attended at Middlebury.

Yet it would be generous to suggest that Kenyon Arena was even a quarter full.

Earth to Middlebury College students: if you can take two hours out of your day to support the men's hockey team — and we know that Kenyon would have been packed if the men had hosted Amherst — then you can do the same for our women's hockey team which is playing at as high a level as anyone in Division III hockey.

And while we're at it, let's dispel the myth that women's sports events aren't fun to attend. The same rush you feel when the men's basketball team takes the floor also happens when the women's hockey team skates out onto the ice in overtime needing a goal to secure an NCAA Tournament berth as they did on Saturday. And when they raced out of the tunnel, they deserved the support of a raucous student body, roaring its approval as it does every time the men take the floor, the ice, the field, whatever.

The lack of support hints at something more than just busyness or laziness. In fact, forget hints, it reeks of sexism. And that's not a criticism of men, that's a criticism of everyone. Men and women alike fail to support women's sports. If you're not a hockey fan, that's one thing. But for the 2,000 students, faculty and residents of Middlebury who routinely pack Kenyon Arena for regular season men's hockey games, your lack of support for the women's team is sad.

I'm not naïve enough to think that women's games and men's games should be equally attended. But when thousands of people flock to watch men's regular season games and then only a quarter of that number watch the single most important home game of the women's season, then yes, I think there's a problem.

And it's not a problem unique to Middlebury.

When Geno Auriemma's University of Connecticut women's basketball team broke John Wooden's streak of 88 consecutive wins at UCLA, the UConn coach ripped the media as well as people in general for their coverage of and reaction to his team's accomplishment.

"I just know that there wouldn't be this many people in the room if we were chasing a women's record," Auriemma said after his team won its 88th-consecutive game, tying Wooden's mark at UCLA. "The reason there's everybody in this room, the reason everybody's having a heart attack the last four or five days is a bunch of women are threatening to break a men's record."

That Auriemma came under criticism for the timing of his remarks does not make what he said any less true.

Teams like the Connecticut women's basketball team and the Middlebury women's hockey team should be supported and appreciated for the tremendous ability that they demonstrate every time they play, but, like all teams, all the more so when they are putting together championship-caliber seasons.

Fortunately, the women will play one more home game, this weekend, against rivals Plattsburgh State in the quarter finals of the NCAA Tournament. Many of you — myself included — will be at the men's basketball game, which tips off at the same time. And that's great. I can't fault you anymore than myself if you love basketball and wouldn't miss Saturday's game for the world. But for the many of you who would never miss a men's hockey game, fill Kenyon Arena on Saturday at 7 p.m.

They deserve it.

— Damon Hatheway is a sports editor from London, England.

Men's basketball advances to Sweet Sixteen



Joey Kizel '14 protects the ball from a Morrisville State defender in the Panthers' 75-49 win over the Mustangs on March 2. For more photos from the game turn to page 21.

By Damon Hatheway

The Middlebury men's basketball will host the NCAA sectional round or, as it is more popularly referred to, the Sweet 16 and Elite 8 games this weekend, March 9-10, at Pepin Gymnasium. The Panthers earned a spot among the final 16 teams with two wins last weekend in the NCAA Regional rounds.

Friday, March 2, Middlebury made its third consecutive trip to the second round of the NCAA Tournament following a dominant 75-49 win over the Mustangs of Morrisville State.

The Panthers shot an even 50 percent on the evening, despite a slow first half when they shot 37 percent from the field. The teams adjusted well at the break, blowing open the game with a 46-point outburst in the second half while shooting a scorching 63 percent.

The Mustangs disrupted Middlebury's offense early on with a two-three zone that forced

the home team away from Player of the Year candidate Ryan Sharry '12 and baited them into shooting long three-point shots in the early going.

"In the first half we fell in love with the three," said co-captain Nolan Thompson '13 who missed his first four attempts from beyond the arc. "On offense we haven't seen a zone defense too much of the year. Tonight was the first game all year where we had a lot of zone."

"It certainly was a concern of mine," said head coach Jeff Brown, referring to the Morrisville zone. "Obviously in the first half we struggled with it — we got some good looks, but we

got much better looks from our penetration in the second half." The Panthers found their footing in the second half behind Thompson who, after shooting just two for seven in the first half, made all but one of his seven second half attempts, leading the Panthers with 14 second half

points and all scorers with 19 in the game. The Akron, Ohio, native wasted no time out of the halftime break, driving to the lane for a layup on the Panthers' first possession, extending the Middlebury lead to eight.

"You just have to stay confident — you have to keep shooting," Thompson said. "I know I'm a good shooter, I know I can knock down open shots. They weren't falling for me early, but you just have to stay in there — maybe get some layups, maybe get some free throws to get yourself going, but you have to stay confident."

After Mustangs leading scorer Mickey Davis knocked down a jumper to cut the Middlebury lead to six at 41-35, the Panthers went on a 20-5 run, which was bookended by three-point baskets from Joey Kizel '14 and Thompson, who scored 14 points in just over 11 minutes.

Three other Panthers finished in double digits: Jake Wolfin '13, Kizel and Peter Lynch '13 had 14, 11 and 10 points respectively.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

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Morrisville St. 49

Men's hockey falters in NESCAC title game

By Alex Edel

After upsetting second-seeded Bowdoin 6-3 on March 3 in the NESCAC semifinals, the men's hockey team fell to the Lord Jeffs on March 4, in a close 4-3 battle. Although there were some surprising losses throughout the season, the Panthers won eight out of their final 10 games, with both of their losses coming at the hands of Amherst.

In the first period of the NESCAC semifinal game between Middlebury and Bowdoin, both teams failed to find the back of the net despite 12 shots on goal from Bill Beaney's squad.

Any thoughts of a low-scoring affair were quickly put to rest however, as the Panthers erupted in the second period, scoring four unanswered goals in just over 11 minutes.

The team's scoring spree started 7:02 into the period as tri-captain Charlie Strauss '12 scored 17 seconds into a four-on-four run after members of both teams were sent to the penalty box for roughing. His sixth goal of the season came off of a pass from fellow tri-captain Tom Cantwell '12.

Just 36 seconds later, Chris Brown '13 took advantage of open ice on the 4-4, passing to wide-open tri-captain Tucker Donahoe '12.

While two goals would have given Middlebury a commanding lead, the Panthers doubled their lead to 4-0 going into the third period. At 16:33 into the period, Derek Pimentel '15 found a streaking Martin Drolet '12 who skated up the left side of the rink and flipped the puck into the back of the net with a backhand.

Up 3-0, first-year George

Ordway '15 stole the puck from Polar Bear goalie Steve Messina, and shot on an open net to make the score 4-0.

The third period proved just as prolific, with the two teams cobining for five goals over the final 12:36 of the game.

Bowdoin took advantage of a power play 7:24 into the period and scored again just 51 seconds later, cutting the Panthers' lead in half, 4-2.

But Alex Walsh '15 fired back for the Panthers at the 13:52 mark, extending the Middlebury lead back to three.

The Polar Bears made one last push for a chance to play for NESCAC title, as Rob MacGregor was able to find to bring his team within two goals with just under three minutes left to play.

The Panthers got the final say, however, when Trevor Pollock '13 scored his team's sixth goal of the afternoon.

Following a 5-0 loss to the Polar Bears in January, Middlebury's 6-3 victory marked its sixth win in the last seven games. First-year goalie Dan Fullam '15 made 24 saves, giving him a 7-3-1 record on the season going into the NESCAC Finals against Amherst.

"Heading into Sunday we prepared as we have all year," said Steele. "One thing in particular we focused on was beating their goalie. He has been the backbone of their team all year and has given them an opportunity to win a majority of their games."

The Panthers did not waste anytime in the NESCAC Championship game on Amherst's own rink, taking a 2-0 lead after just 10 minutes of play.

SEE MEN'S HOCKEY, PAGE 23

Women's hockey wins second straight NESCAC title in OT

By Mike Oster

The Middlebury women's hockey team captured its seventh overall and second consecutive NESCAC title on Sunday, March 4, defeating Amherst College in a competitive game that needed an additional period to determine a winner. The Panthers also defeated the Lord Jeffs in last year's final to claim the conference crown with a tight 4-3 victory.

Before advancing to the championship game, Middlebury faced Trinity College in a semifinal matchup on Saturday, March 3. The Panthers played aggressively from the start, cruising to a 4-1 victory over the Bantams.

In Saturday's NESCAC semis, Grace Waters '12 was the first to score for Middlebury 11 minutes into the first frame, converting a pass from Emily Fluke '15 for her eighth goal of the season. Trinity's Lucy Robinson evened the score at 1-1 four minutes later off an assist from teammate Abby Ostrom. Despite a power play toward the end of the period, Middlebury was unable to break the tie.

The Panthers went ahead for good as Maria Bourdeau '12 scored just under six minutes into the second period. The game was competitive for the remainder of the second and beginning of the third periods, but Middlebury surged at the end of the game to widen their lead.

First, Lauren Greer '13 scored her 12th of the season off an assist from Katie Sullivan '15. Trinity then added a skater, leaving the goal open for a successful shot from Madeline Joyce '14.

The game ended with a final score of 4-1, sending Middlebury to the final to face Amherst. The



Kate Moreau '15 skates forward with the puck while being chased by a Bantam defender during the Panthers' semifinal win over Trinity en route to their seventh NESCAC title.

Lord Jeffs defeated Bowdoin College 1-0 on Saturday to advance to the championship match.

The game opened up with a scoreless first period that saw aggressive play from both teams. Amherst penalties gave Middlebury two power play opportunities, but they failed to capitalize on either. The period closed out 0-0 with Middlebury holding a 9-3 shot advantage.

Both teams upped the level of play in the second frame, but neither team managed to get the puck in the net. Middlebury almost put themselves on the board with a shot from Maggie Melberg '12 just over five minutes in, but Amherst goaltender Sinead Murphy made the save to keep the game scoreless. Amherst experienced similar disappointment moments later when Panther

goalie Annabelle Jones '15 denied an attempt by Josie Fisher.

After back-and-forth play for much of the first two periods, Middlebury only managed two more shots on net in the second frame, from Hannah Bielawski '15 and another from Melberg, while Amherst made another eight unsuccessful attempts in the period.

With both teams going into the final period scoreless, the pressure to find a game-winning goal mounted. Middlebury began an offensive push with just over five minutes left that resulted in several just-misses for the Panthers. Greer started the effort with 14:04 remaining and was followed by Waters, Bourdeau and Sara Ugalde '14.

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